

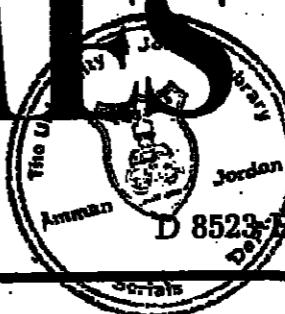
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Belarus	Dr 0.650	Japan	Y 5540	C. Africa	Rs 6.00
Belgium	BE 35	Jordan	Dr 500	Singapore	CS 4.10
Canada	CS 50	Kuwait	Dr 500	Spain	Pe 95
Cape Verde	Dr 0.700	Liberia	Dr 6.00	Sri Lanka	Ru 30
China	Y 100	Lithuania	Dr 2.25	Sweden	Sk 5.50
China	Y 100	Luxembourg	Dr 1.00	Switzerland	Fr 2
China	Y 100	Malta	Dr 4.25	Thailand	Ba 1.50
China	Y 100	Mexico	Pe 300	Tunisia	Dr 0.600
China	Y 100	Morocco	Dr 6.00	U.S.A.	Ch 6.50
China	Y 100	Netherlands	Dr 2.75	U.S.A.	Ch 6.50
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FINANCIAL TIMES

EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

No. 29,101

Tuesday August 23 1983



Brazil's debt crisis and the IMF, Page 10

NEWS SUMMARY

GENERAL

Manila killing deplored by West

The political opposition in the Philippines yesterday condemned what it called the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of its leader Senator Benigno Aquino and vowed to continue his fight for human rights and justice.

President Marcos appeared on television to appeal for calm as Western countries joined in deplored the killing. Page 4

Missiles outlawed

Florennes, the Belgian town tipped as a likely site for cruise missiles, has outlawed the stationing or transport of nuclear weapons on its territory.

Elephants alert

The Sri Lankan Government tightened security in the hill country town of Kandy after threats that anti-government forces might throw bombs to make dozens of elephants taking part in a pageant stampede.

Whales decision

Friponor, a major Norwegian fish marketing group which has been a target of protests by environmentalists, is to stop processing and selling whale meat in 1984.

Nuclear missile plea

Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has appealed to Soviet and U.S. leaders to delay deployment of new medium range nuclear missiles in Europe even if their negotiators fail to reach agreement at arms reduction talks.

Mountain survivor

Three-year-old Ariane Blum-Gayet was recovering after 48 hours huddled against the dead body of her grandfather on a mountain north of Grenoble.

Pakistan guards cash

Police surrounded jails and banks while funds were transferred to hiding places from bank branches in Pakistan's riot-torn Sind province.

Syrian hanging

Two Syrian men were hanged in a Damascus square for offences including armed robbery, torture, rape and drug trafficking.

Union appeal defeat

South Africa's highest court refused to hear the appeal of ailing 74-year-old black trade unionist Oscar Mpetha, jailed for five years in June on terrorism charges.

South African bomb

South African police said they found an unexploded Soviet-made hand grenade near the site of a weekend explosion which blacked out Pretoria suburbs, and blamed the blast on the banned African National Congress.

Women's plan

Iraq's General Federation of Women has prepared a plan to employ more than a million women in state and private industry, apparently to replace men fighting in the Gulf War.

Briefly...

Belgium has expelled at least six Soviet and Romanian diplomats in a growing economic espionage case.

Cairo and Alexandria death toll after the collapse of four houses at the weekend rose to 36.

Indian flood death toll in Uttar Pradesh rose to 82 with more villages threatened.

Japanese drug company claimed a method of mass producing the controversial cancer drug interferon.

BUSINESS

Palme in bid for economic consensus

BY JEREMY STONE IN LONDON

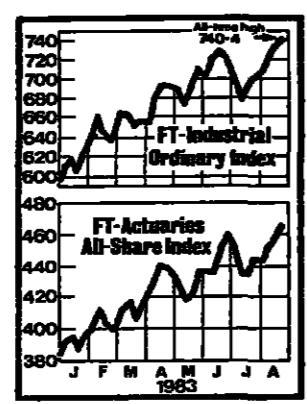
THE DOLLAR resumed its downward course yesterday, as the pressure for an immediate rise in U.S. interest rates abated, following Friday's \$50bn drop in the U.S. M1 money supply.

Yesterday's decline was welcome news to the leading central banks, particularly in Europe, after a sharp rise in the dollar last Friday. The central banks, especially those of West Germany, Switzerland, France and Japan, have spent \$3bn over the last three weeks in an attempt to turn the tide against the previously rising dollar.

Although intervention seems recently to have slackened, a lower dollar is seen as vital to a fragile industrial recovery that would otherwise be threatened by the need to raise interest rates in defence of other currencies.

The dollar fell in London yesterday to DM 2.6325 (DM 2.57), to FF 7.315 (FF 7.3675), to SwF 2.14 (SwF 2.156) and to Y242.95 (Y243.4). Its trade-weighted index was 127.5 (128.2), in New York it closed at DM 2.6157 (FF 7.3175; SwF 2.1328 and Y242.6).

STERLING rose 1.1 cent to close in London at \$1.528. It was unchanged at SwF 2.375, improved to Y371.5 (Y370.5), but fell to DM 4.0275 (DM 4.035) and to FF 12.1 (FF 12.12). Its trade-weighted index was 85.8 (85.7). In New York sterling closed at \$1.54345. Page 29



BY GUY DE JONQUIERES IN LONDON

A SERIES of recent takeovers has helped Olivetti of Italy to jump into top position among European-owned computer manufacturers, according to a survey by Logica, the London-based computer services house.

The survey, published in the U.S. magazine Datamation, says that Olivetti's revenues from European data processing activities rose by 30 per cent in dollar terms to \$1.3bn last year, one of the fastest growth rates in the industry. Expressed in lire, its growth rate was 55 per cent.

Olivetti has for the first time overtaken Siemens of West Germany, Cii-Honeywell Bull of France and Britain's ICL, which until now have been Europe's computer industry leaders. It has also passed Digital Equipment of the U.S., which has extensive sales in Europe.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES (IBM) of the U.S. continues to dominate the European market, however. Its European data processing

market about the interest-rate outlook, with new records established in Tokyo and London and firm ear-

ing trade on Wall Street.

TOKYO saw share prices rise across the board and the Nikkei Dow Jones average soared through 9,200 for the first time to 9,203.75 (1975 = 100) was the highest since Friday's London close.

Amsterdam continued its strong trend after clearing domestic company results, but most prices closed slightly lower in Frankfurt, where the lower dollar failed to spur buying.

Nevertheless, the world's stock markets reflected renewed opti-

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Dollar slides and stocks gain as rate fears abate

BY JEREMY STONE IN LONDON

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EUROPEAN NEWS

PALME SEEKS TO GIVE UNIONS GREATER STAKE IN INDUSTRY

Sweden calls talks on economy

BY KEVIN DONE, NORDIC CORRESPONDENT, IN STOCKHOLM

MR OLAF PALME, the Swedish Prime Minister, has invited leaders of the opposition parties and both sides of industry to a series of crucial talks next month in a bid to reach greater political consensus on the management of the economy.

The Social Democratic minority Government is seeking to push through controversial legislation to establish wage-earner investment funds aimed at providing the trade unions with a significant stake in the ownership of Swedish industry.

The plans, which have been under consideration and debate for several years, have aroused fierce opposition from the centre-right political parties and from the employers' organisations.

Turkish trade deficit wider

ANKARA - Turkey's foreign trade deficit widened in the first half of this year because of a slowdown in exports, the Ankara Turkish economic news service reported yesterday.

The first-half deficit stood at \$1.8bn compared to \$1.7bn in the first half of last year.

Exports between January and June rose by 5.3 per cent and stood at \$2.7bn, at least 15 per cent below Government forecasts. Ankara said imports also rose by 5.8 per cent. Reuter

based wage-earner funds during 1984. If they continue to meet determined opposition from the Right and Centre, they will be dependent on the Communists either abstaining or supporting the legislation in order to win a majority in the Riksdag, the Swedish parliament.

According to plans announced earlier this year, the funds would derive investment capital from two sources: a new tax on company profits - a so-called profit sharing tax - and an increase in the employers' pay roll tax.

A ceiling of SKr 400m (\$51.1m) a year would be set on the amount of capital that could flow to each fund, meaning a maximum of SKr 20m a

year for the whole wage-earner scheme.

The total value of quoted companies in Sweden today is around SKr 200bn, which means the funds could

Walesa gagged by fear of arrest

By David Buchan, East Europe Correspondent

SEVERAL HUNDRED Polish shipyard workers gathered briefly outside the Lenin yard in Gdansk yesterday, but Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity union, cancelled a speech to them because he said he feared arrest.

Government media have

mounted a campaign against him, accusing him of advocating Poland's "collective suicide," while the principal authorities have tightened security in the Baltic port. Mr Walesa said he

cancelled his planned speech yesterday "because I knew that if I didn't, I would be in jail for at least a month from

the moment at which the legislation was introduced seven

years ago."

The central issue is the so-called Law 159 or 1976, brought in as an emergency measure to stem the flight of capital from Italy at that time. That year saw three serious lira crises and

the moment at which the

Party came closest to power at

a national level.

Since then, times have

changed considerably. The

"Italian risk" is no longer a

catch phrase on international

financial markets, while in the

first seven months of this year

the balance of payments showed

a surplus of L3.154bn (£1.3bn).

Blackmarket currency rates,

most notably indicate that there is

no significant clandestine export

of capital from the country, to

Switzerland or elsewhere.

However, the Law 159 con-

tinues in force. Unauthorized

capital exports of up to £6m

(\$2.055) are liable to administrative sanctions. Large exports

are criminal offences, technically

calling for court proceedings.

The result has been that

magistrates and the Guardia di

Finanza financial police have

been swamped by what would

Italy may ease law on illegal currency exports

By RUPERT CORNWELL IN ROME

THE ITALIAN Government is considering substantial changes in the law governing the illegal export of capital, as well as the possibility of extending an amnesty to as yet undiscovered offenders since the legislation was introduced seven

years ago.

Last year the Guardia di Finanza reported a sharp increase in such irregular exports to £1.208bn (\$503m) in 1981. The total of irregular exports identified by the authorities (including the "administrative" ones of below £5m) rose to £1.670bn (\$598m) from £935bn (£339m) in 1982.

An updating of the law is

being studied by the Foreign Trade Ministry here. Political parties of most hues, as well as the Bank of Italy, are also

in favour. The most talked of idea is for the illegal export of capital to become a penal offence only when sums of more than £100m are involved.

A revised draft of Law 159 is expected to come fairly soon before the new Cabinet, headed by Sig Bettino Craxi. Meanwhile, several senior ministers

have spoken out in favour of coupling the changes with an amnesty for past offenders.

The argument is that such a move might lead to a useful flow of funds back into Italy, as capital held abroad is repatriated. Some estimates are that as much as £3,000bn (£1.25bn) might return, with obviously beneficial implications for Italy's financial position.

Industrial investment in EEC likely to stagnate

By PAUL CHEERSRIGHT IN BRUSSELS

INDUSTRIAL investment in the European Community this year in real terms, is likely to stagnate, according to the European Commission following analysis of a Community wide poll of chief executives.

Although the survey, averaged out over the EEC, points to a 5 per cent increase of investment in value terms, once this has been adjusted to take into account expected price increases, the result is stagnation.

The survey, carried out in March and April, shows little change in projected plans from an earlier poll done last October and November. This suggests "rather firmly based investment planning," the Commission said.

It might also suggest a view about the prospects for international recovery rather less sanguine than that increasingly held by governments and economists. But, for shorter

term developments, industrialists seem more confident.

Apparently helped by greater willingness of customers to carry heavier stocks, industrialists polled generally thought that production prospects look better than at the beginning of the year.

There are in any case wide differences through the EEC on investment intentions. The survey suggests that the value of investment in Britain, France and West Germany will rise by 5 per cent. Adjusted for price increases, however, this means a decline in real terms of 3 per cent in the UK and France.

The strongest investment

should take place in Italy with a value increase of 25 per cent

and in Denmark with 11 per cent.

The industrialists polled predict the most notable rises in investment for the mechanical engineering and food manufacturing sectors.

As an example of the latter, Dr Ball quotes plans for nuclear strikes against Soviet military facilities near Iran, including installations in the Soviet Union so as to "significantly degrade Soviet capabilities to project military power in the Middle East for a period of at least 30 days."

However, Dr Ball notes that, despite the dramatic increase in the number of targets, the general categories and types of targets included in the US war plans have been little changed since the 1940s.

He also notes that in spite of apparently marked changes in publicly declared nuclear policy, actual targeting policy as well as the nature of the targets themselves have changed much less. Even when US doctrine was massive maximization, US targeting policy remained more flexible, allowing for limited use of nuclear weapons, Dr Ball says.

Targeting for Strategic Deterrence, by Desmond Ball. Adelphi Paper 185, International Institute of Strategic Studies, London WC2 £2.50.

Concord Watch Company S.A.

63, rue Centrale

CH-2502 Biel, Suisse

FINANCIAL TIMES, URG No. 102540, published daily except Sundays and holidays. U.S. subscription rates \$42.00 per annum. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y. Postmaster: send address changes to FINANCIAL TIMES, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, N.Y., N.Y. 10019.

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Department of
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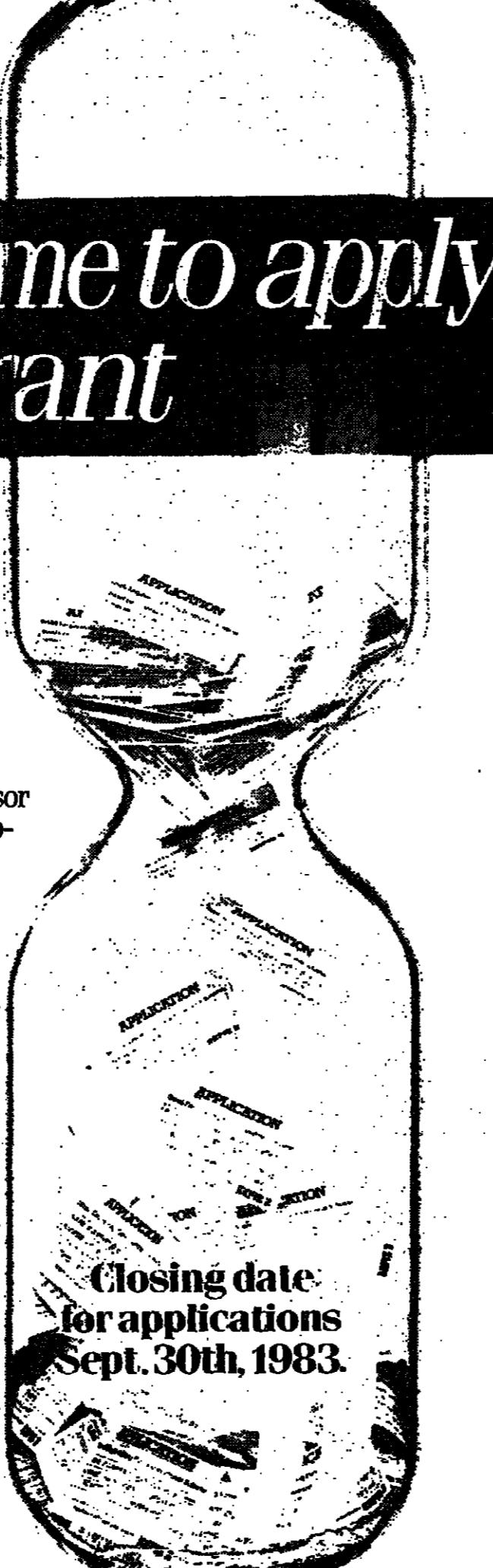
Position _____

Company _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

To: Department of Trade and Industry, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Division, Room 530, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1P 6RB. Telephone: 01-212 6055.



U.S. 'aims N-weapons at 40,000 targets'

By Bridget Bloom, Defense Correspondent

U.S. plans for strategic nuclear war involve more than 40,000 potential targets, compared with only 20 in the late 1940s and some 25,000 less than a decade ago, according to a new study of U.S. nuclear targeting policy.

The study, by Dr Desmond Ball of the Australian National University, is one of the earliest attempts to detail and analyse the secret area of U.S. nuclear policy. It notes that, following a recent review by the Reagan Administration, the U.S. target plans for strategic nuclear war are now "extremely comprehensive."

The 40,000 potential targets are divided into four principal groups: Soviet nuclear forces, Soviet general purpose military forces, political and military leadership centres, and the economic and industrial base. Each group contains a wide range of target types.

The Reagan Administration is developing a new single integrated operational plan (Siop) variations of which have governed nuclear targeting since 1950s to provide greater planning for the possible use of nuclear weapons in a protracted conflict. Dr Ball says.

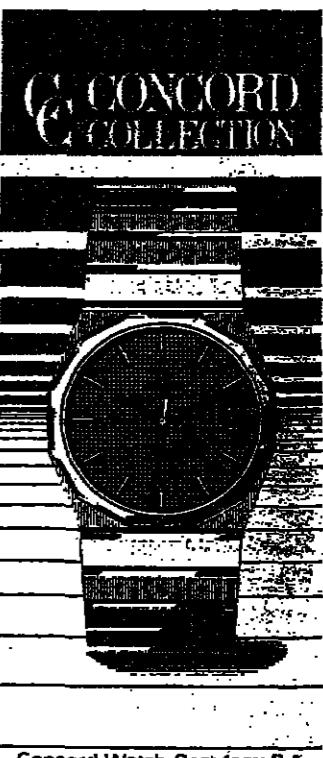
At present Siop provides for four options under which nuclear weapons could be used, ranging from major attack options through to regional, limited, and selective attack options.

As an example of the latter, Dr Ball quotes plans for nuclear strikes against Soviet military facilities near Iran, including installations in the Soviet Union so as to "significantly degrade Soviet capabilities to project military power in the Middle East for a period of at least 30 days."

However, Dr Ball notes that, despite the dramatic increase in the number of targets, the general categories and types of targets included in the U.S. war plans have been little changed since the 1940s.

He also notes that in spite of apparently marked changes in publicly declared nuclear policy, actual targeting policy as well as the nature of the targets themselves have changed much less. Even when U.S. doctrine was massive maximization, U.S. targeting policy remained more flexible, allowing for limited use of nuclear weapons, Dr Ball says.

Targeting for Strategic Deterrence, by Desmond Ball. Adelphi Paper 185, International Institute of Strategic Studies, London WC2 £2.50.



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Sys

U.S. aims
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By Bridget Bloom
U.S. Defence Correspondent
war involves more potential targets 20 in the decade and some 25,000 in a study of U.S. nuclear policy.

The study, by Dr. Ball of the Austrian University, is one attempt to analyse the most recent U.S. nuclear policy, that, following a review by the Reagan administration, the U.S. target is extremely compressed.

The 40,000 potential targets are divided into four groups: Soviet general purpose forces, political leadership, economic and military. Each group covers a range of target types.

The Reagan administration is developing a new integrated operational (Slop) variation of the governed nuclear weapons since 1980 to provide planning for the pre-emptive conflict. Dr. Ball

At present Slop pre-plans options under nuclear weapons, ranging from more limited and selective

As an example of a nuclear strike against military facilities, including installations, Soviet Union, so as to significantly degrade Soviet power in the Middle East.

However, Dr. Ball also notes that the number of targets in the general categories of targets included in the plans have been limited since the 1980s.

He also notes that apparently no public policy, actual or proposed, as well as the same targets themselves changed much less. The U.S. doctrine was re-established, U.S. targets remained more realistic for limited use weapons. Dr. Ball

Forcing for Soviet targets to be removed from the Strategic Arms Control (SAC) list.

Missiles delay backed by Brandt

By Jonathan Carr in Bonn
HERR WILLY BRANDT, the West German Social Democrat Party (SPD) leader, has thrown his support behind the Greek plan to delay for six months the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

Speaking on Greek television, he stressed that the Athens initiative would give the U.S. and the Soviet Union more time to reach accord in their missiles negotiations at Geneva.

He also criticised sharply Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Bonn Foreign Minister, for rejecting the Greek proposal so soon after it was put last week to all European Community governments.

Herr Brandt said that as the representative of a country with a particularly vital interest in a Geneva agreement, Mr. Genscher should have waited to see what his European colleagues had to say.

In the meantime, several other states, including Britain and Italy, have expressed opposition to the plan.

Under Nato's "twist track" decision of 1979, West Germany is one of the European countries due to deploy U.S. intermediate-range missiles from the end of this year if the Geneva talks fail.

Many in the SPD make clear they would favour a delay in deployment if the superpower negotiations seemed on the point of success. Some reject deployment altogether. The SPD is to establish its final view at a special conference this autumn.

The government stresses that a General result can only emerge if the West shows the Soviet Union it is determined to stick to its deployment timetable.

Herr Genscher is also thought to have acted quickly on the Greek idea to undermine the West Germany's position on the missiles issue.

AP adds from Bucharest: President Nicolae Ceausescu has sent letters to President Ronald Reagan and President Yuri Andropov appealing for agreement at Geneva.

Mr. Ceausescu has come closer than any other Soviet bloc leader to taking a non-partisan approach on the missile issue.

Moscow submits treaty on space weapons to UN

BY BRIDGET BLOOM, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE SOVIET UNION has submitted a draft treaty to the United Nations which would ban the testing and deployment of weapons systems in space.

The treaty, apparently an amplification of a proposal made in Moscow last week by Mr. Yuri Andropov, the Soviet President, to visiting U.S. senators, has been sent to Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General.

It would forbid the testing or deployment in space of weapons systems "designed to hit targets on earth in the atmosphere or in outer space." It would also not only prevent nations from

testing and developing anti-satellite weapons but would have them agree "to eliminate such systems already in their possession."

Initial U.S. reactions to the Soviet proposals have been very cautious. While the State Department has said that Washington will "study carefully any serious Soviet proposal" to control space weapons, arms control officials remain sceptical of the latest moves.

They point out that the Soviet Union has working earth-based weapons that can be fired into orbit and then used to destroy satellites. They also point out that Moscow has publicised its proposals in the knowledge that the U.S. is about to test its allegedly more effective anti-satellite rocket launched from an aircraft.

Officially, despite rising Soviet concern about U.S. space activities following President Reagan's "Star Wars" speech last March on the possibility of

constructing a space-based shield against nuclear missiles, Moscow has also consistently expressed concern about the U.S. space shuttle, which it has criticised as a military space ship with anti-satellite capability.

However, there is increasing feeling in the international arms control community that military competition in space not only should, but could be constrained, given political will by both superpowers.

Negotiations to control space-based weapons, already in diffi-

culties over verification, fell apart following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 and have not been resumed. The 1967 treaty, signed by the two superpowers and most other countries, bans the use of nuclear weapons and others of mass destruction in outer space. The loophole is that the weapons now being developed would not cause mass destruction—and would be deployed anyway in the orbit of the earth.

Denmark's opposition draws its battle lines

By Hilary Barnes in Copenhagen
DENMARK'S OPPOSITION Social Democratic Party has launched a counter-offensive against the coalition Government's cuts in welfare spending.

With the non-Socialist coalition facing a highly uncertain future this autumn, including a serious test of its strength on September 9 in a vote to reduce local authority grants, the Social Democrats' programme has taken on the character of an election manifesto.

Its main points include: a restoration of the welfare cuts made by the Government; reduction in the working week from 40 to 35 hours over the next five years; and an increase in corporate income tax from 40 to 50 per cent.

The party adds, however, that public expenditure will be kept under tight control and the private sector must be enabled to grow faster than the public sector.

The aim is to reduce unemployment by 200,000 from its present level of about 280,000 (10 per cent) by 1989, and to halve the budget and current account deficits by the end of the decade.

The reduction in the working week—to be paid for by increases in productivity and not through direct wage compression—is seen as necessary for reducing unemployment.

The Social Democrats say they will reintroduce automatic price indexation of social welfare and unemployment benefits, one of the main means for reducing welfare spending introduced by the present Government. They will also restore sick pay compensation for the first day off-work, reversing another government measure.

The programme also rejects plans, announced by the Government last week, to make the better-off fifth of the population pay for many medical services.

The Social Democrats say the increase in corporation tax would only be temporary and designed to penalise companies which do not invest enough of their profits.

Hard act to follow for Austria's new Chancellor

QUESTION: Would you describe yourself as a socialist, a social democrat or as a pragmatist, and where does the balance lie?

WHO IS THIS Dr Fred Sinowatz who has taken over as head of the Austrian Government since the electoral defeat of his flamboyant fellow-Socialist Dr Bruno Kreisky? Dr Sinowatz was born into a working class family in 1929. Later, his parents started a small coal merchant's business, an experience which may help him to bridge potential class gulls within his party's coalition with the Liberal Freedom Party.

Dr Sinowatz's most immediate worry is the state of the economy. Austria's structural budget deficit is likely to reach Sch 95bn (C3.4bn) this year, more than Sch 20bn higher than planned. The deficit could endanger Austria's exchange rate policy, which has helped to contain inflation.

The new Chancellor used to say he had no wish for the job. He changed his mind and has acted with great shrewdness. In a lifetime of Socialist politics he has acquired the reputation of moderate and conciliator. As this interview with W. L. LUETKENS shows, he can see both sides of the question. Time will tell whether he can also act decisively.

firmly in the thinking of our people. Our loyalty belongs to pluralist democracy in every respect, but we also have known . . . how to establish normal relations with our neighbours in the East.

I believe that we have made a contribution to detente. We want to continue our policy of supporting detente whenever possible and of working for a solution of problems by negotiation.

Q—Does that mean that your Government will try, as has been done in the past, to identify means by which detente can be achieved between East and West, or in the Middle East?

S—I believe that Austrian foreign policy has been supported by all the political parties if you overlook differences caused by the political emotions of the day . . . We wish to continue in the relatively short time, taken root

same way, though I do not want you to forget that much that was identified with the personality of Chancellor Kreisky—his profound involvement with foreign policy—cannot continue as though nothing had changed.

Q. Do you uphold the target set under your predecessor of bringing the budget deficit down to 2.5 per cent of GNP?

S. In the past we already have been above that level. Then we came down. Now, once again, we have high deficits and should bring them into a better relationship to GNP. We must tackle that problem with the utmost energy. It will be very hard. We shall have to re-examine our budgetary needs with the tasks of conjunctural policy.

Q. And the target of 2.5 per cent?

S. . . cannot be achieved from one day to the next. It is a question for the medium term.

Q. In Austria you have a mixed economy. Do you consider that the present relation of private to nationalised industry is properly balanced, or are shifts to be expected?

S. In our policy statement we said that industry was an entity. But as owner of the nationalised industries the state does have special responsibilities . . .

Q. Put in general terms, the state must be ready to give an impetus where necessary; to extend support where that makes sense; to help to create a favourable economic climate. That includes a good working climate; a good industrial climate; and good industrial relations.

Q. Of course, on the other hand, we must firmly insist that there must be no encroachment on entrepreneurial freedom and no limiting entrepreneurial initiative. That is all we can do.

S. I believe that targets really ought to be set and that we must try to ensure that the funds that will have to be pro-

vides also to state-owned enterprises.

Q. Would you consider it proper again to create something similar to the new General Motors branch plant at Aspern near Vienna?

S. We can already see that General Motors has contributed substantially towards preventing a falling off of industrial output that would otherwise have occurred. I do have a feeling that . . . we have fared well with this venture.

Q. Your programme calls for modernising the production of basic materials in state-owned enterprises and for enlarging their output of finished goods. Will the enterprises be given targets that they must reach, and will drastic action be taken if they fail to do so?

S. I believe that even in a well-fare state we must think over what should be left to the public sector, what to the market, and what is a job for the private sector.



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covering all key centres in the United Kingdom.

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To find out more, contact Rosemary G. Crichton, Plessey Telecommunications Limited, Edge Lane, Liverpool L7 9NW. Telephone: Liverpool (051) 228 4830 Ext. 2886. Telex: 629267. A company within Plessey Telecommunications & Office Systems Limited.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Philippines opposition vows to carry on Aquino's struggle

BY CHRIS SHERWELL AND EMILIA TAGAZA IN MANILA

THE POLITICAL opposition in the Philippines yesterday condemned what it called the "suspicious circumstances" surrounding the murder of Senator Benigno Aquino and vowed to continue his fight for human rights and justice in the country. The criticism came in a statement from the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (Undio), which embraces 12 opposition groups and which hoped to benefit from Senator Aquino's leadership in its political struggle against the Government of President Ferdinand Marcos.

Usually long and widespread power cuts in Manila yesterday, together with security checks in public buildings, reinforced the atmosphere of nervousness in the capital, following the assassination of the Senator as he returned to his home from an self-imposed exile in the U.S.

President Marcos strongly appealed for calm when he appeared on television last night and condemned the "vultures attempting to cause panic and chaos" by spreading rumours.

With his wife Imelda at his side and all senior Ministers nearby, he said that yesterday's power cuts may well have been caused by sabotage. He also speculated openly that Senator

Aridor loses battle in Israeli Cabinet over cuts

BY OUR TEL AVIV CORRESPONDENT

ISRAEL'S Finance Minister, Mr Yoram Aridor, has lost a long battle with Cabinet critics over public spending cuts, setting off speculation that he may be forced from office.

After days of debate, the Cabinet has agreed on cuts of Sh 40bn (£480m)—far less than the Sh 55bn target set by Mr Aridor—and has vetoed many of his earlier proposals.

Worse still for the Treasury, the Cabinet still has to decide exactly where a quarter of the cuts should come from, and more inter-Ministerial bickering seems to lie ahead.

Mr Aridor took office in 1981, pledging to slash Israel's three-figure inflation rate. With in-

Mauritius government re-elected

THE THREE-party alliance headed by Mr Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius, has won a comfortable victory in his country's general elections, our Foreign Staff reports.

The alliance, consisting of the Mauritian Socialist Movement (MSM) led by the Prime Minister, the Labour Party headed by Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, and the Mauritian Social Democratic Party (PMSD) of the former Foreign Minister, Mr Gaetan Duval, has won 41 of the 62 seats.

Long queues of mourning Filipinos waited hours outside Mr Aquino's house in nearby Quezon City yesterday to see his body lying in state under candlelight. The Senator's face, expressionless in death, bore marks of dried blood on his chin where the single shot which killed him left his head.

The opposition now faces a difficult task: welding together its disparate opponents. Senator Aquino's death has thrown the country into a state of uncertainty, although it was unclear whether he would succeed in time for next year's planned Assembly election.

Mr Salvador Laurel, president of Undio, demanded yesterday that President Marcos take full responsibility for the Government's failure to protect Mr Aquino's life. The President would "have to answer a lot of questions" from the Filipino people, he added.

Mr Laurel cited a catalogue of "mysterious circumstances" surrounding the assassination.

Pakistan warning

Pakistan's military Government has warned protesters they face the full force of martial law if they continue demonstrations against President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq in which 14 people have died, Reuter reports from Islamabad.

A Government spokesman said 715 people had been arrested since a civil disobedience campaign began on August 14.

Beirut shelling

Heavy shelling broke out between rival Christian and Druze factions in the mountains east of Beirut early yesterday, and shells and rockets crashed into the city's outskirts, Reuter reports from Beirut.

Security officials said first reports indicated five people died, at least 10 were injured, and dozens of houses were damaged.

Malaysia treads rough road to new identity

BY CHRISTOPHER SHERWELL, SOUTH-EAST ASIA CORRESPONDENT

HALF AN HOUR'S drive south of Kuala Lumpur, near a busy light industrial area, a brewery and a race track, scores of excavators, graders and trucks are working round the clock to clear and level a 2,000-acre area of plantation oil trees.

This is the site for the country's first "made in Malaysia" car, a project close to the heart of Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister.

His attempts to introduce heavy industry are part of an effort to diversify and expand the country's economic base.

Critics point to the car project to illustrate their worries about the basic of the strategy. The turnkey contract signed in May between the Heavy Industries Corporation of Malaysia (Hicom), established just three years ago, and Japan's Mitsubishi group foreshadows a plant producing 80,000 vehicles a year in 1985, rising to 120,000 by 1988.

With the existing domestic market at 100,000 vehicles a year supplied from several local assembly plants handling CKD kits, the Malaysian car is likely to need high exports—or, more likely, high tariff protection—to be produced economically.

Latest results in the senatorial voting show NPN and the Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) of Chief Obafemi Awolowo each with 14 seats out of the 35 so far declared in the 66 member senate.

Other heavy industrial projects, either under way or

MALAYSIAN ECONOMY			
	1980	1981	1982
Merchandise trade balance (M\$bn)	4.776	-29	-1,427
Current account balance	2,273	7,422	-6,470*
Overall balance of payments	1,002	-1,973	-214
External borrowing	310	2,909	4,050*
Outstanding debt	4,860	7,769	11,813*
Public sector budget deficit	-8,549	-14,561	-14,847*
External debt servicing ratios (per cent)	1.8	2.7	4.9
Estimate			7.8*

Sources: Ministry of Finance Economic Report 1982; Bank of Negara Annual Report 1982.

planned, display some of the same disadvantages. They include a truck plant, a cement plant, a sponge iron plant, a cold steel rolling mill and a pulp and paper mill. Also mooted are a North-South highway and a "bullet train." An oil refinery planned for Malacca has been deferred, as has a military air base in Kelantan province. These alone would cost a total of \$3.5bn (£2.3bn).

The past 18 months have been a sobering experience, both for those who support Dr Mahathir's efforts and those who find them flawed.

Prices on all five of Malaysia's main export commodities—tin, rubber, timber, palm oil and pepper—plunged, only to be joined by the oil price. Then the recession in the industrialised countries became so deep and long-lasting that Malaysia's attempt to beat it through a counter-cyclical spending policy had to be abandoned.

The financing of a country which seemed blessed—even in bad times—had remained above 4 per cent but suddenly come under immense strain. The budget deficit and external borrowing had exploded. No action was taken to restrain even luxury imports while the counter-recession policy was in operation, and exports stagnated.

Malaysia found itself with its first merchandise trade deficit

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say, makes it one of the most promising customers around, a point borne out by the response to Malaysia's recent \$880m floating rate note.

But as one senior Malaysian banker in Kuala Lumpur insists: "I tell my foreign banker friends: 'Don't make us another Mexico. We don't want to be pushed to the brink by debt service payments.' A Government official says that a borrowing standstill came in 1984 and 1985, not only because this is when much debt matures, but also because a return to high U.S. interest rates would abort world economic recovery.

It is this scenario which makes Dr Mahathir's heavy industry strategy sensitive. In such circumstances, too many unforeseen problems with too many capital-intensive industrial development projects need exports in areas of great com-

petition to survive could upset the Government's finances unless prudent decisions are taken now.

This is not to say that the heavy industry idea lacks sympathetic support, even if greater attention could well be given to a resource-based industry (the best suggestion being furniture manufacture which would exploit timber resources).

The chief executive of one Malaysian multinational, for example, says the country has "got far down the toothpaste-to-television" manufacturing road as it can go, and that it needs to look elsewhere for the future.

This is Dr Mahathir's view. He believes the country must embark on a "second phase" of industrialisation to survive, and that the best time to start is now.

This has resulted in a series of policies "look east" to encourage emulations of the Japanese and South Korean work ethic. "Malaysia Inc" to stimulate co-operation between the public and private sectors, and "privatisation" to moderate an ever-increasing Government role in the economy.

The misfortune for Dr Mahathir and his colleagues is that the strategy having been conceived in the extraordinary good years of the 1970s, stands to run foul of the setbacks of the early 1980s.

Israel seeks to restore links with black African countries

BY OUR TEL AVIV CORRESPONDENT

ISRAEL yesterday laid on a red carpet welcome for Liberia's president, General Samuel Doe, and tried to tempt other black African states to restore relations by offering help against Libyan intervention.

Gen Doe is the first black African leader to pay a state visit since 1981. Israel has kept a considerable presence in black Africa. Israel's exports are put officially at about \$100m but the real figure, inflated by undisclosed arms sales, is believed to be far higher.

Israel has maintained special interest sections in six countries, including Kenya and the Ivory Coast.

There are now about 4,000 Israelis in black Africa, some 2,000 of them in Nigeria. Last year the Israeli army resumed military assistance to Zaire.

Officials acknowledge, however, it is the anti-Libyan card which has given Israel its best chance yet of bringing back its old position on the continent.

When he took power in a coup three years ago, flew from West Africa in an Israeli aircraft. President Chaim Herzog and almost the entire Government lined up to greet him at Ben Gurion airport.

According to Israeli officials, Liberia has already asked for Israeli intelligence about Libya. President Herzog's welcoming speech made clear that black African nations could expect assistance.

"Much of the experience which we as a small country dedicated to achieving and defending its independence have gained, will be placed at the disposal of your country," he said.

Despite the boycott of the past

Third World progress hampered by 'dogma'

BY DAVID TONGE IN LONDON

EFFORTS to develop Third World countries have been hampered by the policies favoured by development economists, according to a book published in London yesterday by the Institute of Economic Affairs, the free market study centre.

Mr Deepak Lal, reader in political economy at University College, London, and currently an economic adviser to the World Bank, strongly criticises the "dirigiste dogma" which has dominated policy towards developing countries. He says this dogma has encouraged countries to turn inwards and foster a "hot-house, import substituting industrialisation" behind high protective walls when the real gains have been had by countries such as

South Korea which have lowered tariffs.

Mr Lal's thesis is that "efficient growth which raises the demand for unskilled labour by getting the prices right is probably the single most important means of alleviating poverty." This same point is made cogently in the World Bank's latest World Development Report, which shows that countries such as Nigeria and Ghana which distorted the prices of foreign exchange, capital, goods and labour grew an average of 4 per cent less per year.

The Poverty of "Development Economics," by Deepak Lal, a Hobart Paperback, published by the Institute of Economic Affairs, £3.

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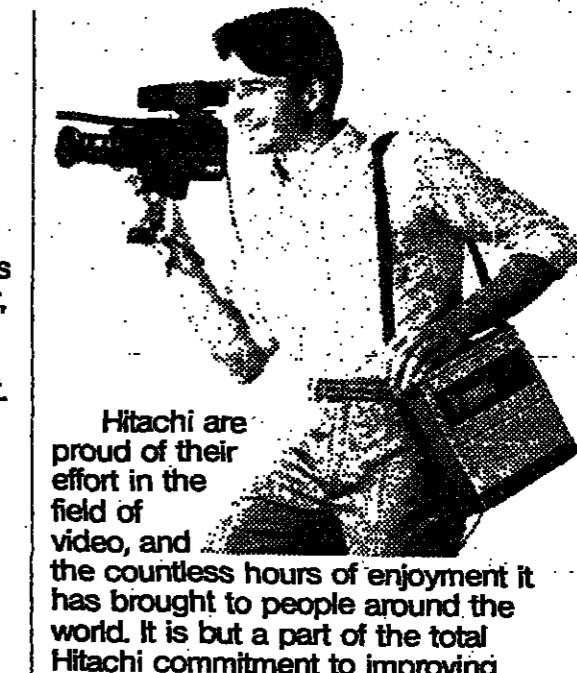
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What Micro?

The Electron is bound to be compared to the BBC Micro. However it would be better compared to other micros in its price range, the likes of the Spectrum, Oric and Vic 20. There is however no real comparison as the Electron wins on all counts—it has better graphics, a better keyboard, faster and more versatile Basic. We rate the Electron higher than any of its competition. Acorn had better be ready for a rush, there's going to be one.

What Micro? Sept. '83

This micro.



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Today, Acorn Computers unveil their new home microcomputer, called the Electron.

And, as you can see, it has already met with critical acclaim in its first independent review from one of Britain's leading computer publications.

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You can judge for yourself just how good the £199 Electron is by visiting the Acorn User Show at the Cunard Hotel, Hammersmith, London from August 25th-28th.

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ACORN COMPUTER

WORLD TRADE NEWS

Swiss Government overrules Turkey credit risk decision

BY JOHN WICKS IN ZURICH

THE SWISS Government has overruled a decision by the country's Export Risk Guarantee Commission which refused cover for a major hydroelectric contractor in Turkey.

A guarantee is essential if the order, which concerns the giant Ataturk complex on the Euphrates River, is to go through.

Contracts worth some SwFr 1bn (£310m) of the total project cost of about SwFr 10bn are foreseen for the delivery of eight turbines and generators by Brown Boveri and Escher Wyss, with project management the responsibility of the civil engineering division of Elektro-Motoren.

In spring of last year Brown Boveri and Escher Wyss—a part of the Sulzer Brothers group—applied for Export Risk Guarantee cover. This was refused by the commission. Last summer, Fritz Honegger, then Minister for Economic Affairs, told Parliament that the system already had guarantees worth SwFr 700m in respect of the two companies' deliveries to the Karakaya power-station project in Turkey. He doubted that Turkey would be able to repay principal and interest on the Ataturk contracts. Over a 20-year period, these were believed to amount to SwFr 1.7bn.

This year, Brown Boveri and

Egyptians to consider new sewer system bid

By Charles Richards in Cairo

THE EGYPTIAN authorities are meeting today to discuss an application from GEC to revise its bid for a £12m contract in the Cairo wastewater project.

Five companies tendered for Contract Number Two, the mechanical and engineering part of the Al Ameriya pumping station. When bids were first opened on January 31, the lowest bidder was Mather and Platt.

This follows approaches from

representatives of industry and

trade unions to Dr Kurt Furgler, Dr Honegger's successor.

The Government has

obviously based its decision on

the severe problems faced by

heavy engineering in Switzerland.

An informal approval is

understood to have been given

to its foreign stake by Hermes

in West Germany. Part of the

plant is to be made by an

Escher Wyss factory in Ravenna.

Should a comprehensive

financial package be obtained,

it seems possible that the order

could finally be placed early

next year.

Although this would be

the hard-hit engineering

companies and the trade

unions, there is already criti-

cism of the unusual step taken

by the Federal Council to over-

rule the Commission.

Singapore seeks opening date for chemical project

SINGAPORE—Singapore has told Japan to give a firm operational date for a U.S.\$1bn petrochemical complex here, Government officials said.

The complex, which has an annual production capacity of 500,000 tonnes of naphtha and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), is a 50/50 joint venture between the Singapore Government and Japanese concerns.

The officials said the latest wrangle preventing the operation of the new completed plant is Singapore's proposal that the partners convert into capital loans amounting to \$840m (U.S.\$187m) to help reduce debt charges.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Singa-

pore's Prime Minister, and Mr

Suppiah Dhanabalan, the

Foreign Minister, have met

Japanese officials in the past

fortnight, and Japan is expected

to respond to Singapore's

request for additional capital

before the end of the month,

the officials said.

Lowest of four bidders were

£1100m.

Reuter

Jason Crisp previews Telecom 83, the world telecommunications jamboree, in Geneva

Telephone system supply battle heats up

THE BATTLE to supply the world with new telephone systems is warming up. In a few weeks, practically every telecommunications manufacturer will be in Geneva for what promises to be one of the most lavish business jamborees of all time.

Companies and nations will be jostling to show their wares for a market worth about \$60bn (£33.5bn) a year and growing. Telecom 83, an exhibition held every four years, is particularly important this year because the age of modern digital communications has

handle the growing traffic of data communications with ease.

In spite of the number of companies offering digital systems there are still few true all-digital exchanges in operation, and few companies could deliver a range of digital exchanges now.

The cost of developing these exchanges—which are complicated computers needing enormous amounts of labour-intensive software to make them work—is astronomical.

ITT of the U.S. spent \$1bn developing its System 12; Britain has, so far, spent over £300m on System X and Canada's Northern Telecom spent \$700m on its DMS exchange.

Philips, the Dutch electricals giant, has recently abandoned attempts to develop its own system, after spending several hundred million dollars, and has joined American Telephone and Telegraph's system in international markets.

The cost of developing this latest generation of exchanges has become prohibitive to all but the largest companies. That was illustrated last week when it was disclosed that the Swiss PTT has abandoned plans to develop its own digital system, called IFS. The Swiss had spent at least SwFr 200m (£61m) developing the IFS with its

three main suppliers Hasler, Siemens and STG, the Swiss subsidiary of ITT.

The Swiss PTT acknowledged earlier this year that its system would not be ready in time and that it would be better and cheaper to buy a proprietary system. Leading contenders are Siemens with EWS and ITT with System 12.

Traditionally, only a small percentage of the world market for telecommunications has been open for competition with most countries tied to indigenous manufacturers. But as the breaking up of AT&T in the U.S. the gradual liberalisation of telecommunications monopolies in some countries and the problems of developing advanced systems in small countries like Switzerland mean more markets are slowly becoming more accessible.

The leading suppliers of digital exchanges are AT&T's subsidiary, Western Electric, and Northern Telecom in North America. LM Ericsson of Sweden, CIT-Alcatel of France, NEC of Japan, the U.S. conglomerate ITT, and Siemens, all of which have significant orders, although Western Electric has not sold its SESS exchange outside the U.S.

Other suppliers include Britain's Plessey and GEC with System X which is still in search of a significant order overseas, Thomson-CSF of France, Fujitsu and Hitachi from Japan, Hasler from Switzerland, Nokia from Finland and GTE of the U.S.

Selling communications equipment in international markets has less to do with its merits and more to do with reviews around local manufacture, technology transfer, and in many cases soft loans and generous aid packages. The French, in particular, have demonstrated how top level government support can clinch telecommunications contracts.

There have been a number of key events and contracts this year which may be a good guide as to which companies are likely to succeed in this market.

China, L M Ericsson wins \$1m contract from Canton province. Competition included a joint bid by GEC/Plessey with System X. ITT's Belgian subsidiary Bell Telephone Manufacturing wins \$250m contract to supply 100,000 lines of System 12 and established joint venture to make factory capable of producing 300,000 lines a year;

India, CIT-Alcatel wins £150m contract to supply second factory making its exchanges against competition from System X and Siemens. Last

year CIT-Alcatel won an order to supply India with 500,000 lines and factory.

Philips/Al&K. Two of the world's leading electronics companies set up joint venture to sell public telecommunications systems outside the U.S. AT&T's digital exchange SESS will be adapted for world markets by Philips. AT&T has had little success or interest in international markets with sales only in South Korea, Taiwan and Saudi Arabia. Philips' main international success is the giant contract it shares with LM Ericsson in Saudi Arabia.

Norway, ITT's Norwegian subsidiary wins order for 520,000 lines of System 12.

West Germany, Bundespost gives technical approval to Siemens and ITT's respective digital systems. First time non-Siemens designed system accepted.

UK, Fierce competition to supply Hull, Britain's only independent regional telephone authority. Seen as important foothold in world's fourth largest market. Similarly nearly 20 companies are bidding to supply Mercury, the new independent national business network, with switching equipment. LM Ericsson is set to win deal to supply Racal-Millicom with switching for cellular radio.

Further delays on Ivory Coast hydroelectric scheme

BY PETER BLACKBURN IN ABIDJAN

Revised Taiwan copyright law sent for approval

BY BOB KING IN TAIPEI

THE TAIWAN Cabinet has sent a long-awaited revision of the copyright law to the legislature for formal approval.

In addition to substantially increasing penalties for piracy of copyrighted works, the revision also expands the scope of coverage to include graphic and industrial designs.

This means that foreign manufacturers, for the first time will be able to protect their designs on items ranging from footwear and garments to machinery and electronics products.

A tough revision of the Trademark Law, enacted earlier this year, appears to have seriously slowed traffic in purloined trademarks, but piracy of books, records, art works, and designs has continued unabated.

While the revision affords protection to Taiwan's citizens immediately upon production of a work, foreign companies and individuals must first register their work with the Interior Ministry.

pirated computer software.

But the Cabinet left the door open for the Economics Ministry to propose that legislation should include software.

The revision also increased the penalty for copyright piracy from a maximum of three years to five years jail, as well as setting a minimum sentence of six months for convicted pirates.

As well as sharpening the law's teeth, the increase in maximum sentences also serves to prevent convicted pirates from making use of a section of Taiwan's criminal code which allows sentences to be converted to a minuscule fine.

The proposed revision does not address the question of

IVORY COAST'S \$650m (£436m) Sonibre hydroelectric power scheme which is running more than a year behind schedule, has encountered further delays due to problems over project management and financing.

Construction tenders have been postponed "until further notice" following complaints at a recent aid donors meeting in Abidjan.

It is understood that the donors, led by the World Bank and including the African Development Bank, European Investment Bank and Commonwealth Development Corporation, are concerned about several points.

They object that the Direction des Contrôles des Grands Travaux (DCGTX), which recently took over control of the project from Energie Electrique de la Côte d'Ivoire (EECI), lacks experience in hydroelectric schemes.

The aid donors are understood to have objected to a change in tender terms by which contractors and equipment suppliers would now be required to bid in CFA francs and bear the foreign exchange risk themselves. This was felt to give an unfair advantage to French bidders.

The donors are also believed to have proposed that a special body be created with overall project responsibility, but detailed supervision would be entrusted to three organisations.

French consulting engineers, Electricité de France, would supervise dam civil works and installation of electro-mechanical equipment. EECI would handle electricity transport and distribution and buildings and related infrastructure.

Sierra Leone seeks Iran aid

SIERRA LEONE has asked a visiting Iranian delegation for aid in the gold mining, oil exploration and agricultural sectors, officials said yesterday. Reuter reports from Freetown.

Mr Ali Akbar Vellayani, the Iranian Foreign Minister, arrived in Freetown on Sunday at the head of a 24-member delegation, and held talks with Sierra Leonean officials.

The poor West African country is seeking about \$15m to finance exploitation on gold deposits. It also asked for assistance in taking over the national oil refinery, jointly owned by the Government and three foreign companies—Mobil, Texaco and Shell—whose stake is about \$12m.

They said other projects for which the Government of President Siaka Stevens was seeking Iranian help included oil and gas exploration, the creation of a national oil company, a \$60m rice-growing project



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AMERICAN NEWS

Venezuelan oil price leak suspects arrested

By Kim Fund in Caracas

AT LEAST 10 people, including employees of Petroleos de Venezuela, the state oil industry, and locally-based independent oil brokers have been arrested by Venezuelan police and charged with leaking confidential information on oil export prices and volumes.

Police started an investigation after a tip-off by Petroleos de Venezuela executives who had been making internal investigations of leaks that had allowed buyers to take advantage of impending price changes or the need to sell excess stocks of refined products.

Mr Alberto Quiros Corradi, president of Maraven, a subsidiary of the state oil industry, said on Sunday: "We were worried because there were people who were a little more than usual about our activities. The information leak was toward locally based companies, who as intermediaries are in contact with buyers."

Over the weekend, police raided a dozen offices and homes according to police chief Sr Gabriel Lugo. Sr Lugo said those arrested included state oil company employees and members of private companies. One was a U.S. citizen. Venezuela's President, Luis Herrera Campins has reportedly referred the investigation to be taken to its "final consequences."

Oil industry observers believe those involved are at fairly low levels in the management structure. Moreover, since the bulk of Venezuelan oil is sold by direct, long-term contract, spot cartoes represent only a fraction of exports which averaged 1,586,000 barrels per day in the first half of this year.

"However, a cargo of 180,000 barrels, which is what a medium-sized tanker carries, with prices ranging from \$25 to \$30 a barrel, would provide an incentive for some individuals attempting to reap profits," one marketing expert said. He explained that if a buyer were aware of Venezuelan needs to place excess production of a refined product on a weak market, he could offer to take it with a discount. "If the buyer has prior knowledge of increasing price increases, he could purchase ahead of time and make a profit later."

Jimmy Burns in Buenos Aires looks at the state of the parties before October's general election

Argentina's Peronists ponder the Isabelita enigma

"IN THIS mad, surrealistic country of ours, anything can happen," Sr Ernesto Sabato, one of Argentina's most eminent writers, commented recently. Few issues smack more of surrealism than the rumoured return to Argentina before the end of this month of "Isabelita" Peron, the wife of the late Gen. Juan Peron, and the country's last civilian President.

Two years ago, not many Argentines were crying for Isabelita. Only a handful of middle-aged women in fur coats bid an emotional farewell to the woman whose brief reign between 1974 and 1976 had plunged Argentina into political and financial chaos. When, in 1981, she was sent into exile in Madrid after five years of leisurely house detention, no one expected to see her back for a long time.

Today, sisters of her face made to look as revolutionary as that of the legendary Evita, have been pasted up around Buenos Aires with the caption "Isabelita returns and will win." Her current Spanish holiday has been monitored as if the destiny of the country rested on her thin shoulders.

Isabelita's fortunes have been greatly helped in recent weeks by the apparent inability of her party to agree on a Presidential candidate. The election due on October 30 will be the first since the death of the party's founder and pervading influence, Gen. Peron. The Peronist movement has yet to forge a sense of identity and common leadership.



Peron and Evita

The difficulties are partly the result of Gen. Peron's pragmatic attitude towards politics and his inability or unwillingness to build his party around a clearly defined ideology. Peronism is today a pot-pourri of diverging interest groups ranging from neo-Fascists to Marxist revolutionaries.

It has a working-class base, but its leadership is traditionally crushed the more militant exponents of class struggle. Gen. Peron's system of patronage also left little room for an orderly succession.

His legendary will—"my only inheritors are the people"—meant all things to all people. It condemned his party to a pinhead ending after his death, leaving his son and wife, Evita, who died of cancer in 1955, "Peron and Evita live," is still the party's most popular slogan.

Although all camps in the Peronist party are publicly confident, they admit privately that their future is inextricably linked with the plays of Sr. Senora, as Isabelita is now called. She is still the titular president of the party and the country's most popular candidate, and a serious challenger to the Peronists' traditional political hegemony.

Isabelita has made no public pronouncements about her political intentions, nor confirmed her alleged plans to return before the Peronist congress in the beginning of next month. Some Peronists have threatened to boycott the congress because of the Supreme Court's continuing refusal to drop several pending court cases because of her alleged embezzlement of public funds.

The Isabelita enigma has contributed to denying the Peronists the edge in the run-up to the elections.

Their main rivals, the Radicals, rallied as early as last December round the charismatic figure of Sr Raul Alfonsin formally endorsing him as their Presidential candidate last month. A lawyer with a

key points of his manifesto.

"There are some military

officers who would like to interrupt the democratic process and stage a coup," Sr Alfonsin said recently, "but a coup would provoke widespread civilian disorder and wouldn't succeed. The elections are irreversible."

For over two months, the Peronists have been locked in internal party elections to prepare the ground for the election or endorsement of the Presidential candidate at the national congress.

Peronist officials have tried to focus the media's attention on thousands of militants casting their votes in quiet booths, but while it is true that the campaign has so far been peaceful, the Peronists are still a long way from destroying their violent, Fascist image.

One example of the Peronists' divisions was the major row that blew up recently over a statement made by Sr Leopoldo Tettamanti over the Falklands conflict. He had claimed his intention of negotiating the return of "the Malvinas" to Argentine hands and has ruled out a cessation of hostilities as long as Britain refuses to get round the negotiating table.

Sr Alfonsin, however, denies accusations of demagoguery and has made the democratisation of the armed forces and the trade unions the key

points of his manifesto.

Operations for the duration,

Phelps Dodge, the second

biggest copper producer in the U.S., reopened its strike-bound Morenci copper mine in Arizona over the weekend using non-union labour. The result

was one of the most violent

scenes in recent U.S. labour

history. Some 1,000 strikers

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threatened non-union workers

as they crossed the picket line

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gest facility.

The miners at Phelps Dodge

have been on strike for 53 days.

Unlike previous strikes when

the company has closed its

operations for the duration,

Phelps Dodge decided to con-

tinue running its copper mines,

this time because it said it could

not afford to close them.

Non-union labour was used at

Morenci until August 9, when

the increasing violence led the

company to close the mine tem-

porarily. During the reopening

over the weekend, some 300

National Guardsmen and 450

State patrolmen were dispatched

to the mine.

The company claims output is

now back to 75 per cent

of normal levels prior to the start

of the dispute.

Phelps Dodge, which lost



Isabelita . . . no one expected her back.

Right wing attacks U.S. Central America plan

By Reginald Dale, U.S. Editor, in Washington

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan's controversial Central American policies are about to come under heavy attack from an unexpected quarter. A wide array of conservative think-tanks and right-wing pressure groups, until recently among the strongest supporters of his tough strategy in the region, have become increasingly concerned over Mr Reagan's tactics.

They are particularly worried about his apparent willingness to consider a negotiated solution to the conflict, which they believe would "sell out" right-wing forces such as the El Salvador Government and the anti-Sandinista "contra" rebels in Nicaragua.

Mr Richard Stone, Mr Reagan's special ambassador-at-large for Central America, is to return to the region in the next few days. White House officials said they hoped Mr Stone would have his second meeting with El Salvador guerrilla leaders.

The move that has particularly angered the U.S. right was Mr Reagan's appointment of Dr Henry Kissinger to lead the new special commission that is to draw up recommendations for a longer-term U.S. economic and social programme for Central America.

The conservatives regard the appointment as an indication that Mr Reagan is going for "consensus politics" rather than sticking to his guns. They also dislike Dr Kissinger. His commission is "the same people who gave us Vietnam and the Iran fiasco," and "a real slap in the face to the conservatives," in the words of Mr Peter Gemma, president of the International Policy Forum, a new conservative think-tank.

A Washington Post survey of the right-wing group's intentions shows that at least 50 are now focusing on a major educational "media campaign" beginning next month intended to swing the White House and Congress back to the path of "traditional" anti-Communist behaviour.

The campaign will call for open support for efforts to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government and a clear willingness to commit U.S. troops to the conflict if necessary.

Unions scrutinise AT&T offer

BY WILLIAM HALL IN NEW YORK

LOCAL UNION leaders of the U.S.'s 675,000 striking telephone workers have been given until tomorrow evening to hammer out final details of the back-to-work settlement after national leaders of the Communications Workers of America accepted an improved offer from American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T).

The agreement, which has to be ratified by members of the three unions involved in the 15-day nationwide strike, will increase wages by an average 16.4 per cent over the life of the three-year contract.

It has been estimated that settlement will cost U.S. telephone companies an extra \$3bn. Mr Glenn Watts, President of the CWA, representing more than 500,000 workers, and one of the most respected leaders said the settlement was a substantial improvement.

According to the union, the proposed three-year settlement will be ratified by members of the three unions involved in the 15-day nationwide strike, will increase wages by an average 16.4 per cent over the life of the three-year contract.

The new agreement, which is also supported by the two smaller unions, the 100,000-strong International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the 50,000-strong Telecommunications International Union, means that the average wage for U.S. telephone workers will rise from \$12.33 per hour to \$14.35

Strikebreakers reopen U.S. mine

BY WILLIAM HALL

PHELPS DODGE, the second biggest copper producer in the U.S., reopened its strike-bound Morenci copper mine in Arizona over the weekend using non-union labour. The result was one of the most violent scenes in recent U.S. labour history. Some 1,000 strikers armed with baseball bats threatened non-union workers as they crossed the picket line at Morenci. Phelps Dodge's big

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The company claims output is

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of the dispute.

Phelps Dodge, which lost

One opportunity that must not slip through Britain's fingers.

Twenty-five years ago, Britain's civil aircraft industry led the world with programmes like the Comet and the Viscount.

The all-new Airbus A320, the world's most advanced jetliner, will give British industry the opportunity to demonstrate itself a leader once again.

The remarkable A320, on which Britain will stake its aerospace future, is currently under the microscope of many key airlines around the world. Alongside it are some American derivatives whose basic technology stretches back to the early sixties.

At least 6000 British high-tech workers conscious of their future consider this unequal comparison is hardly fair competition.

Airbus

UK NEWS

Doubts grow on future of U.S. Steel plan

BY MARK MEREDITH, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

THE FUTURE of a deal which would link crude steel production at British Steel Corporation's (BSC) Ravenscraig works in Scotland to the finishing works of U.S. Steel's Fairless plant, near Philadelphia, is in some doubt, although both sides insist the project is still alive.

Speculation that the deal is in difficulty is based on the following developments:

- Bethlehem Steel, the second largest U.S. producer, confirmed yesterday that it was considering legal action on the grounds that the proposed deal amounted to unfair competition.

- Management and unions at Fairless have set up a joint committee to consider alternative ways of saving the plant, with workers arguing that it could be modernised for about \$750m - not the \$2bn U.S. Steel has cited.

- U.S. Steel has asked for, and been unable to secure, assurances from BSC that the deal would not be opposed by the workforce at Ravenscraig.

- Political opposition remains intense on both sides of the Atlantic, as the deal would mean the loss of up to 2,000 jobs at each of the Scottish and U.S. plants.

Mr Ian MacGregor, British Steel's outgoing chairman, said last month it would be September before both sides knew they had a basis for a deal. This was an indication of delays in the talks.

Dr Jeremy Bray, the Labour MP for Motherwell, who has Ravenscraig in his constituency and who is a strong opponent of the deal, said yesterday that he thought the proposals were dead. He was speaking

BET in talks on sale of oil stake

By Ray Daftor
Energy Editor

BRITISH Electric Traction (BET) is discussing with several oil companies the possible sale of its stake in the North Sea Maureen Field. Industry estimates suggest that BET could raise between £40m and £70m from the sale.

BET, which is currently restructuring its business interests, confirmed last night that it had received "a number of approaches" for its 5 per cent stake in Maureen, an oilfield in the North Sea.

The company added that no decision had yet been taken on whether or not to proceed with a sale. It is understood that BET is still reassessing its long-term commitment to the oil industry.

BET currently has interests in 17 North Sea licence blocks although the Maureen Field in block 16/2a - 163 miles north east of Aberdeen - is the company's first commercial discovery. Partners in the Field, operated by Phillips Petroleum, have invested a total of £70m in its development.

According to oil industry reports European and British oil companies - including UK independent group Charterhouse Petroleum - have expressed an interest in acquiring BET's Maureen stake. The field is due to yield oil at an average plateau rate of 70,000 barrels a day.

Mr Hugh Dundas, BET's chairman, told shareholders earlier this month that the company was moving into a "new era." Changes would include a reduction in the diversity of operations; the speeding up of the disposal of businesses "where profits are now, or are expected to become sub-standard or which do not fit in with our long-term planning"; a more active acquisition programme to enhance the group's growth potential; and the further sale of general investments.

The company's latest annual report says that BET's future commitment to the oil sector was being "actively reviewed."

Generally, the mechanical drive markets have held up better than electricity generation. The expected surge in deliveries this year, for example, is due in large part to engines for use on the Soviet Union's natural gas pipeline to Western Europe.

Turbine sales expected to decline again

BY JAN RODGER
WORLD MARKETS for gas turbine engines are expected to resume their declining trend next year after a slight surge in deliveries this year.

By 1987, annual deliveries could be 37 per cent below the peak 17,300 megawatts (MW) reached in 1977, according to a new forecast by Planning Research and Systems, a London-based market research group, in co-operation with the U.S. journal, Gas Turbine World.

THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER FOR SALE AND THE STOCKS LISTED BELOW ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DIRECT FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND. OFFICIAL DEALINGS IN THE STOCKS ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE ON WEDNESDAY, 24th AUGUST 1983.

ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT STOCK

The Bank of England announces that Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 22nd August 1983, and has issued to the Bank, additional amounts, as indicated, of each of the Stocks listed below:

£300 million 12 per cent TREASURY STOCK, 1995

£200 million 11½ per cent TREASURY STOCK, 2003-2007

The price paid by the Bank on issue was, in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant Stock on 22nd August 1983 as certified by the Government Broker.

In each case, the amount issued on 22nd August 1983 represents a further tranche of the relevant Stock, ranking in all respects *pari passu* with that Stock and subject to the terms and conditions of the prospectus for that Stock, save as to the particulars therein relating to the amount of the issue, the price payable, the method of issue and the first interest payment. Copies of the prospectuses for the Stocks listed above, dated 9th September 1977 and 20th July 1979 respectively, may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Wadding Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for each further tranche of stock to be admitted to the Official List.

The Stocks are repayable at par, and interest is payable half-yearly, on the dates shown below:

Stock	Redemption date	Interest payment dates
12 per cent Treasury Stock, 1995	25th January 1995	25th January 25th July
11½ per cent Treasury Stock, 2003-2007	22nd January 2007, or on or at any time after 22nd January 2003 subject to no less than three months' notice	22nd January 22nd July

Each further tranche of stock issued on 22nd August 1983 will rank for a full six months' interest on the next interest payment date applicable to the relevant Stock.

BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON

22nd August 1983

NEW COAL CHIEF WILL BANK ON 9-YEAR-OLD INDUSTRY PLAN

MacGregor sizes up profit task

By RICHARD JOHNS

MR IAN MacGREGOR is expected to use a nine-year-old strategy as his starting point for making the National Coal Board (NCB) profitable when he takes over as chairman next month.

The plan is the 1974 National Coal Strategy which was drawn up and endorsed by the Government, the National Coal Board and the unions. The significance attached to it by Mr MacGregor is that as he faces up to the task of eliminating overcapacity in the industry and closing high-cost pits it arises not only from the fact that the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) agreed to it at the time, but also the continuing validity and relevance of its content.

The plan envisaged the replacement of exhausted reserves and high cost pits with investment in new capacity. Implementation of the broad strategy outlined in it was both retarded and distorted when the NCB's attempt to accelerate pit closures was thwarted by the strike in 1980.

Close associates of Mr MacGregor emphasise that he has not yet focused on the problems of the industry in detail and will not do so until he takes up his own office. He is known to have had a number of meetings with Mr Norman Siddle, the outgoing chairman.

He said, however, to have been impressed by the extent of decentralisation already achieved by the NCB in respect of incentive bonus schemes. Basic wage rates are negotiated nationally. Mr MacGregor insists that he will start appraising the problems of the coal industry and ways of solving them only when he takes up his own office.

He is known to have had a number of meetings with Mr Norman Siddle, the outgoing chairman.

One of Mr MacGregor's known beliefs is that all industries have their own "in-born perceptions," and, therefore, a fresh approach, uncluttered with preconceived ideas, is needed to solve problems.

He has experience of the U.S. coal

industry, but has had no direct involvement with it for five years.

Quite apart from the brief given to him by the Government, fundamental to his approach is the conviction that British industry must not be saddled with high power costs as a result of obligations on the part of the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) to purchase UK coal at internationally uncompetitive prices.

Yet he would be the first to acknowledge that the size of the coal supply contract to the CEGB - the largest in the world - and the political impossibility in exposing it to the full blast of competition from cheaper imports over night - makes his task at the NCB less daunting in the first instance than the one which confronted him at British Steel.

Mr MacGregor is apparently sincere in his belief that the human and social costs of the coal industry should be borne by society as a whole.

His sense of mission will make him immune to charges of "butcherizing" the coal industry, according to former miners.

The Burton Group, one of Britain's leading clothes retailers, estimates that it alone might lose between £300,000 and £400,000 next year in bad debts.

"This is a very wide issue, affecting the whole of the consumer credit industry, and these changes are just going ahead with no discussions," Mr Victor Ware, Burton's credit manager, said yesterday.

Mr John Patrick, director of the Consumer Credit Trade Association, said yesterday that the new rules might lead to some 15 to 30 per cent of members' bad debts "going down the drain." Britain's total consumer credit industry has an annual turnover of more than £1bn.

Mr Patrick also predicted that the changes might lead to a dramatic shift in the tactics used by retailers for collecting debts. He also predicted that consumer credit would become much tighter in Britain.

• REGIONAL HEALTH authorities in England have been told to achieve economies this year, particularly in less essential expenditure on goods and services. A department of Health directive says manpower control must be tightened and sets a reduced cash limit on capital expenditure from £301m to £583m.

• ROOT CROPS in Lincolnshire, Britain's biggest potato-growing region, are said to be the lowest for seven years. Growers say hot weather has caused potatoes in some areas to "cork in the ground." Huge price rises are forecast.

• UNION LEADERS at Dexion, shelving manufacturers in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, are planning legal action against the company because it has withdrawn a free tea concession to workers as part of cost-saving measures.

• BORG-WARNER's air conditioning factory at Basildon, Essex, is making 130 workers - a quarter of the workforce, redundant because of a shortage of orders. The Basildon works is the main manufacturing plant in Europe of Borg-Warner's York air conditioning division.

• A 14-DAY DEADLINE set by the Financial Times for securing a joint pressroom agreement (JPA) with two print unions passed yesterday with no immediate prospect of agreement. Failure to secure a JPA was at the centre of the recent FT dispute. Mr Alan Cox, joint managing director of the FT, said he was still optimistic about reaching an agreement and emphasised that there was no suggestion of a breakdown in talks.

Retailers fear leap in bad debt losses

BRITAIN'S retailers expect bad debt losses to soar by the end of the year because of planned staff cutbacks among the country's county courts.

The Lord Chancellor's Department, which oversees all UK courts except magistrates' courts, confirmed yesterday that it intended to cut its number of bailiffs throughout the country by 30 per cent.

To achieve those cutbacks and to add further strain to the over-loaded court system, the department also intends to increase the minimum amount of money it will allow creditors to seek through the county courts.

That minimum is expected to be more than tripled, from the current £15 to £50 by November.

As a result, the Consumer Credit Trade Association and the United Association for the Protection of Trade now say that millions of pounds in unrecovorable debts are likely to be lost by their members when the new minimum comes into effect.

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Rumasa litigation in abeyance pending Madrid court rulings

By RAYMOND HUGHES, LAW COURTS CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH litigation arising out of the expropriation of the Rumasa group by the Spanish Government last February is in temporary abeyance, awaiting rulings by the Constitutional Court in Madrid.

The Constitutional Court has before it three challenges to the validity of the decree law under which the expropriation was carried out, and the law subsequently passed by the Spanish Parliament ratifying the decree.

The two major English cases occupied the attention of the High Court in London for a week in July.

Both are essentially battles between the new State management of Rumasa and the group's founder and former head, Sr José María Ruiz-Mateos, over the ownership of the assets of companies in the UK and elsewhere which may, or may not, be part of the Rumasa group.

In each case Rumasa sought continuation of temporary orders it was granted earlier in the year - the applications being vigorously opposed by Sr Ruiz-Mateos. In the event - and somewhat unexpectedly, given the hostility and deep mistrust with which the two sides regarded each other - terms were agreed for the adjournment of both disputes.

Mr Justice Viner, QC, for Sr Ruiz-Mateos, suggested that the "confidentiality" of the High Court of Justice in England may be severely shaken by the leak.

During the hearing, widely differing views on the decree law were expressed by Spanish lawyers who gave evidence for the two sides.

Mr Matias Cortes, for Sr Ruiz-Mateos, took the view that the expropriation was "illegal and entirely without precedent," and that it contravened Articles 1 and 2 of the Spanish Constitution relating to individual liberties and property rights.

Two professors of constitutional law, however, called by Rumasa, Sr Manuel Villar and Sr Carlos Alba, stated that the expropriation was legal and compatible with the Constitution.

An aspect of the case that caused Mr Justice Viner much concern - and, reportedly, puzzled people in Spain, who could not see that it had any importance - was the repetition of the leak.

Dole cuts plan may provoke Tory revolt

By MARGARET VAN HATTEM, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

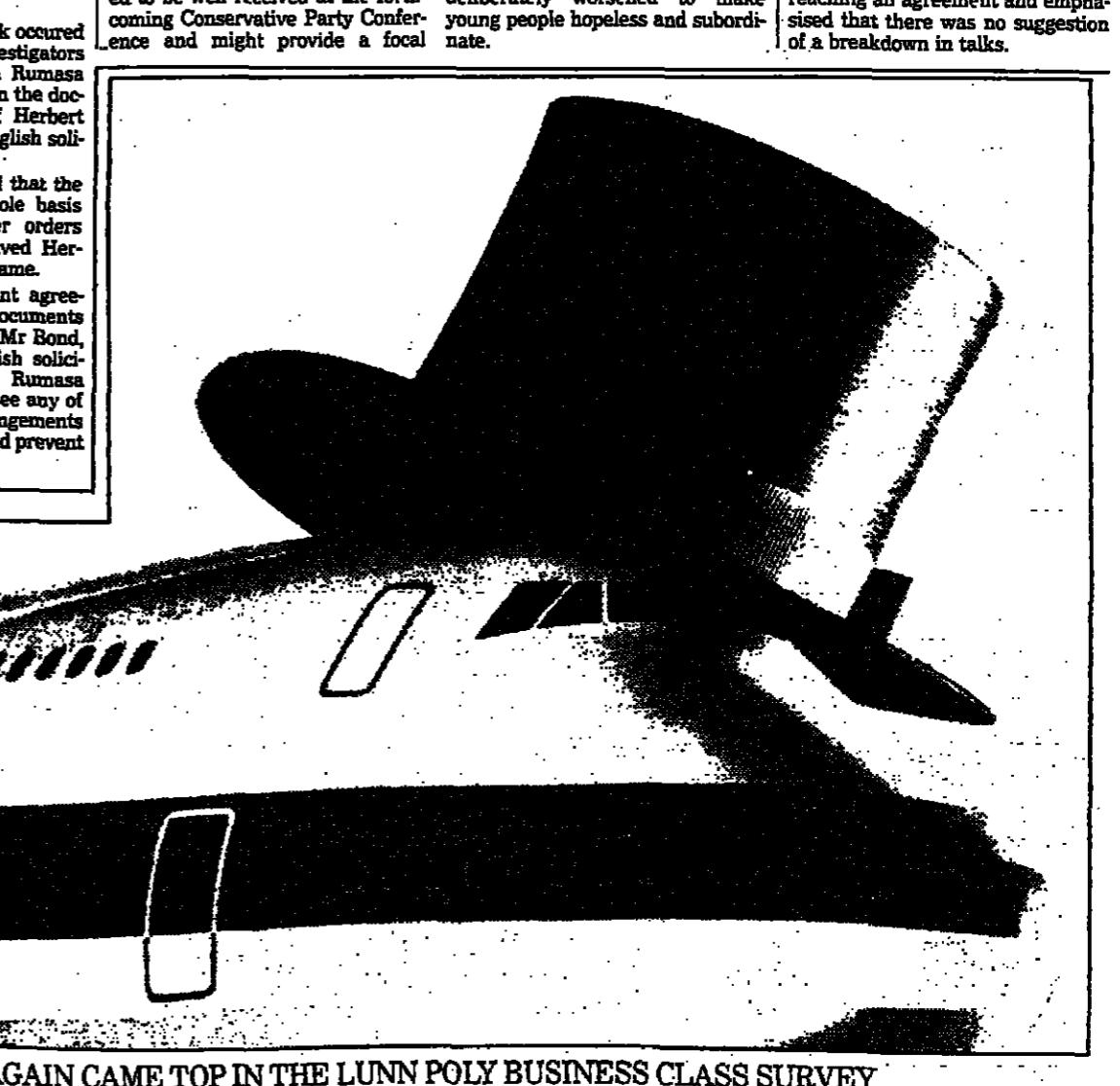
PLANS to cut unemployment pay to young people living with their parents could lead to a revolt by Conservative MPs when Parliament resumes sitting in the autumn.

The idea, which may be incorporated into the present review of public spending, is understood to have the enthusiastic backing of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Their enthusiasm is attributed to the potential for financial savings that to their desire to create incentives to seek work.

Both made clear in recent months their belief that many school leavers regard going on the dole as a soft option, and do not even attempt to find work.

Such sentiments could be expected to be well received at the forthcoming Conservative Party Conference and might provide a focal



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Retailers fear leap bad debt losses

BRITAIN'S retailers fear leap bad debt losses to soar this year because of planned court cases. The Lord Chancellor, which oversees the court system, has cut its number of judges. To some, these are not as further strain on the court system, which intends to minimum amount of cases. That minimum is expected to be November.

As a result, the Consumer Trade Association for the last few days has been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

The British Group of manufacturers has also been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

This is a very undesirable result for the industry and these days, Mr. John Patrick, Consumer Credit, has been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

Mr. Patrick also predicts changes will be made in the last few days, for example, when the new minimum.

REGIONAL HEALTH

In England, the last few days, the new minimum has been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

• **EUROPE CROPS** In Europe, the last few days, the new minimum has been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

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• **BORG-WARNER** In Europe, the last few days, the new minimum has been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

• **A 14-DAY DEADLINE** In Europe, the last few days, the new minimum has been unable to be lost when the new minimum.

With a fine and unrelenting platform by designer Terry Bartlett (a stunning debut for the company), on which is recreated one of those magnificent four-hour versions of Karl Kraus's *The Last Days of Mankind*, Kraus, a mordant key witness to the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, is hardly known to us, but in this extraordinary epic he charts the empire's collapse, the disintegration of Viennese intellectual and philosophical life and the horrendous carnage of the First World War.

He wrote the 800-page piece during the war, published it just as it ended, and only ever saw the final apocalyptic epilogue produced on the stage by his students. The damning double task of dramaturgy and direction has fallen to Robert David MacDonald.

The axis of the original lies in the spirited dialogue between Kraus himself, the prophetically sardonic pessimist here labelled Kraus the Grouse and a patriotic optimist. The Assembly Hall has been given a large thrust

Edinburgh Festival 1983

Visual art: the Cinderella

The Edinburgh Festival is certainly a festival of the arts, but hardly a festival of the visual arts, even though there is, as always, much to see that is more or less closely associated with the festival. John Drummond in his last year as director leaves the situation much as he found it, and perhaps we too should resign ourselves to it, accepting the realities for what they are and not expecting too much of his successor. For the festival has never accommodated the visual arts comfortably and naturally as an integral part of itself, never made it necessary to be in Edinburgh for the Art as such, though we may be lured in by a particular treat; and the symptoms of this awkwardness are inescapable.

Most striking, perhaps, is the fact that most of those exhibits not open already, unveil themselves in what the organisers of the festival themselves describe revealingly as 'Week Zero': and a sense of a certain detachment that must flow from this arrangement is hardly diminished when we learn that one of the principal exhibitions that the festival claims for itself has been on show at the National Gallery of Scotland since mid-July and continues into October.

The truth would seem to be that Edinburgh being what it is, an historic capital with full complement of great collections, museums and institutions, and some enterprising private galleries too, the festival is forced to arrange itself in whatever is done, and right will have been done anyway for a place so full of people. Such opportunism is no disgrace, but it does not make for coherence.

Here is the menu from the 'Complete Programme Guide': Vienna 1900 (York Buildings and Fine Art Society), Man and Music (Royal Scottish Museum), Mouton Rothschild Labels (Royal Scottish Academy), Master Class (National Gallery of Scotland), Sandro Chia (Fruitmarket), Scottish Expressionism (369 Gallery), Pre-Columbian Ceramics, Hundertwasser and Scottish Crafts Now (at the City Art Centre). This list tells us several revealing things, though not necessarily interesting. The clear preference is for the local, the historical and the general, which are safe, while distinguished group that, along with McTaggart, included

(Richard Demarco), or to the interested institution (The Scottish Arts Council). Even this requires a further gloss: for Demarco's Varese exercise is an account of the collection of minimal and conceptual art made by Count Panza di Biumo between 1955 and 1975, and the Council's show of the work of Sandro Chia at the Fruitmarket, which is genuinely important, though not only one in Edinburgh to be so, is also a blatant stop-gap, put together in months upon the late cancellation of what was to have been a more general and personal anthology of modern British painting.

Chia is one of the better painters of the new wave of figurative expressionism that has been so much the movement of the eighties, and he is Italian, which would have made him the perfect ornament of the Art, but when it is Vienna, which I will say in a moment), he is precisely the sort of artist around which the festival could build a real programme, bringing to Edinburgh the kind of work against which not just Scottish but British artists really should be prepared to test their own directly — Scottish painting certainly is tougher than most of us are prepared to allow.

And as at the Mercury Gallery, John Houston shows his new work, his subject matter less conspicuously varied, perhaps, but full of surprises. He is the best painter of the sea we have, a preoccupation he shares with McTaggart, though his treatment of it, broader and simpler, puts him closer to Nolde; and he has made the view out to the Bass Rock his own, taking it in all lights, moods and seasons. He is now in a phase in which he is working with a remarkably confident expansiveness, which he clearly enjoys: and this quality is carried over from his painting to his drawings of figures at parties and groups, to his single-figure studies of his wife, Elizabeth, and his flower pieces. This, too, is a very strong show.

The Mercury Gallery itself brings us at last to Vienna, for it is also showing in its basement a tiny pendant display to the main Vienna 1900 exhibition, concentrating on the Wiener Werkstätte, the cooperative workshop of designers and artists associated with the Secession, the silver of Hoffmann, Orlitz, Löffler, Mackintosh, Moser. It is dense, informative, well set out, and highly enjoyable. As the flagship of the festival, however, it is also highly suspect, for it is deeply and essentially a museum show, scholarly and

Orchardson, Pettie, Chalmers, Herdman and a half-dozen others.

The show follows their careers, from the shared life class and the precious pre-Raphaelite essays of their early years to their divergent old age: Orchardson, the most sophisticated, Whistlerian and distinguished, McTaggart the most adventurous, all of them pillars of the Academy. And it is a nice coincidence that two senior members of the present Scottish Academy should be giving us their own contribution to contemporary Expressionism in one-man shows in private galleries.

Sir Robin Phillips, lately the president, is showing at the Scottish Gallery, filling it with broad spread of his recent work, large and tiny and covering many themes. But varied as it is, the work is overall more straightforward than it has been for a long time, so much less convoluted in approach and cotted in the handling, his natural facility at last given for the most part a direct and unselfconscious expression. It is an impressive demonstration.

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Detail from "Fratello" by Sandro Chia

Both shows are most useful additions, and it is only fair to say that Vienna 1900 is itself very good, setting out very clearly the social and political context in which creative artists then and there were working, and giving salutary emphasis to their mutual curiosity and the particular cases of their active collaboration with writers, scientists, architects, designers and musicians.

Some splendid examples of what was done have been brought together, all the right names are well represented and the story of the Secession well told.

There are a number of surprises (Schoenbergs paintings), rather more treats (Schiele, Klimt and Kokoschka of course; Hoffmann, Orlitz, Löffler, Mackintosh, Moser). It is dense, informative, well set out, and highly enjoyable. As the flagship of the festival, however, it is also highly suspect, for it is deeply and essentially a museum show, scholarly and

dialectic and historical, and worthy enough. But does all that make for a festival show?

The organisers must think so, for their other principal enterprise, Man and Music (which I did not see) would seem by report, mutatis mutandi, to be much the same kind of thing.

In the event the festival surely serves itself better, only in spirit, by the more eccentric and one-off exercises, the most conspicuous of which in this year's crop must be the consignment to the RSA by Robertson Rothschild of the full set of the decorated labels.

With the single exception of Jean Carlu in 1924, and almost every vintage since the War, an artist of some eminence has been invited to design the masthead to the label and to receive an enviable payment in kind, with a tribute to Picasso in 1973, and to the Queen Mother in 1977 the only exceptions.

WILLIAM PACKER

The Last Days of Mankind/Assembly Hall

Michael Coveney

With a fine and unrelenting platform by designer Terry Bartlett (a stunning debut for the company), on which is recreated one of those magnificent four-hour versions of Karl Kraus's *The Last Days of Mankind*, Kraus, a mordant key witness to the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, is hardly known to us, but in this extraordinary epic he charts the empire's collapse, the disintegration of Viennese intellectual and philosophical life and the horrendous carnage of the First World War.

He wrote the 800-page piece during the war, published it just as it ended, and only ever saw the final apocalyptic epilogue produced on the stage by his students. The damning double task of dramaturgy and direction has fallen to Robert David MacDonald.

The axis of the original lies in the spirited dialogue between Kraus himself, the prophetically sardonic pessimist here labelled Kraus the Grouse and a patriotic optimist. The Assembly Hall has been given a large thrust

revenge on the military by spreading disease.

The third of Mr. MacDonald's four acts (Kraus wrote five plus prologue and epilogue) begins with a straitjacketed yell telling the statistics of infant mortality to an indifferent client.

All the while, Kraus bemoans the distortion of the truth by both politicians and journalists. But his Act Two denunciation of the lunacy of war is capped by the ostentatious urination of a waiter on the steps.

However Mr. MacDonald has treated the Austrian dialects of the original, he certainly succeeds in making the play sound his own. We are fairly pummelled with aphoristic pronouncements, but some of Kraus's speeches, especially in his final act, have a truly elegiac quality and persuasive rhythm. Mr. Haveron's remarkable reading of Kraus and photographs of Gustave Mahler in middle age, finally concludes that not wanting to know about war is a bigger ignominy even than war

itself. He gets up, snaps shut his briefcase, spits out the last lines of Hamlet, tips the waiter, and leaves.

It is at this point that all hell breaks loose. The furniture is now draped in white cloth, the stage surrounded by barbed wire, the cast are in gas masks, hands raised in helpless defiance as the text peters out in a broadside of rhyming couples. We have had bangs and pistol reports all evening. Now the whole place goes up in a spectacular smoke conflagration, lighting designer Gerry Jenkinson pulling out all the stops as if we were attending a rock concert. A dismembered voice from Mars breaks off relations with our planet and leaves us to stew in our own rancid juice.

It is one of the best holocausts yet devised by the Citizens' and it brings a challenging, awkward, nerve-wracking but never uninteresting evening to a remarkable conclusion.

F.T. CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 5,198

ACROSS

- Go and join again (6)
- A form of entry (6)
- One Lear running queen (7)
- He's associated with drowsy tots (7)
- He's expecting a bitch! (10)
- Charge excessively for car (4)
- Publicly tipster's choice is reversed for this animal (5)
- Prince he's UK card alternatively (8)
- Chap has one in drink. Highly resistant material (8)
- Painter — master getting sort of profit (5)
- Warning sign from energy contribution (4)
- State of playing area in exciting cricket final? (5, 5)
- Songs we hear in Middlesex (7)
- Sort of square bathed in a noise producing shock? (7)
- The nursery's open in the day-time (6)
- At the back, like a bird (8)

DOWN

- Monarch giving certain line (5)
- Row after boy becomes understudy (5, 2)
- Rate? No! Rig could be silk fabric (8)
- In a short distance has a big difference (5)
- Having undergone hardship need universal Doctor, perhaps (7)
- Plant in the main like a torpedo? (3-6)
- Blue service (5, 4)
- Soft paper rug in charge of everyday business (9)
- Consists of nothing in politician in turning-points (9)
- Moderate takes in one heathen (7)
- Distasteful order in racket (7)
- Most recent novel (5)
- Churchman able to raise number (5)

Book Review

Clement Crisp

Beguiling portrait

Lydia Lopokova edited by Milo Keynes, Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £15

Lydia Lopokova died two years ago at the age of 88. Member of a distinguished ballet family in St. Petersburg — her elder sister and both her brothers were dancers — she left Russia in 1910 to join Diaghilev's second *Saison Russie*, and "fainted right away" records Karsavina, on arriving in Paris. It had long been her desire to be in Paris and "the lovely sight" of the *Gare du Nord* was too much for her.

Her dancing career was spent in the West, where her gaiety and charm captured the public. And her succulence totally to her physical wit, to her tiny, snub-nosed, blonde prettiness, and to her enthusiasm dancing. She had what Virginia Wolf called "the genius of personality," and this magic ingredient not only won her undying devotion from her audiences but also from John Maynard Keynes, her second husband.

To chart something of Lopokova's career and her idyllic marriage with the great economist is the matter of this commemorative volume of essays edited by Keynes'

her sometimes malapropisms and for her entire absence of side or pretension.

Her letters must have been an especial joy to their recipients. Some of the daily notes are reproduced that she sent her husband when they were apart, including a joyous selection when she was dancing in *Soirées de Paris*: "By now I am like theatrical rat always in the theatre, and without end we wait, there is not one controlling voice in the situation, except the Comte's polite but weak falsetto."

The collection of portraits and photographs that are reproduced, including Picasso's Ingres-like drawing of her, suggest the sometimes child-like, always eager personality. Talking about what her mother might say, Lopokova proposed: "She was fresh, radiant, and simple when she made conquest on J. M. Keynes, also all her life she longed for a university degree, which was of course outside her brain province. But on the whole it was not deficit to her character."

Save for the fact that she omitted to note that she was a dame of great quiet, there would be apt comment upon the Lydia Lopokova whose presence this book so happily evokes.

All change at Pitlochry

Departure of Kenneth Ireland means the end of an era

designed by Colin Winslow. Orsino's palace and Olivia's house teased the eye with hidden doorways, balconies and vanishing perspectives, and there were courtly costumes for the whole cast.

Frank Moore was the power mad Malvolio, more than a match for the whole pack of them. His final humiliation is returning to the stage after a magnificently run 30 seasons, and many triumphs of which in this year's crop must be the consignment to the RSA by Robertson Rothschild of the full set of the decorated labels.

With the single exception of Jean Carlu in 1924, and almost every vintage since the War, an artist of some eminence has been invited to design the masthead to the label and to receive an enviable payment in kind, with a new director to follow and I am sure I shall be for all regular customers when I say we wish the new director well in her difficult task. Ms. Wilson learnt her job at the Chester Gateway Theatre, and it will be fascinating to see just how she handles her assignment.

When historians look back on the Ireland era they will, I feel, point to an astute amalgam of the popular, the Scottish, the classical and the contemporary as the main variables of the menu. Ireland never put on a play in which he did not thoroughly believe, but his taste was highly eclectic. He was a great theatrical educator with a proper respect for receipts at the box office. In the past couple of seasons there seems to have been a hiccup or two in getting the precarious balance of the repertory absolutely right. Certainly when the festival moved to its custom-built, glass-paned new theatre a couple of years ago there was a distinct drop in audience figures but this, I suspect, was largely due to the conservative habits of many regulars who enjoyed the theming walk up the hill to the theatre, and had not really grasped the fact that the new one (still offering five plays as many nights) was now located just out of town on the riverbank.

At any rate this season the message does seem to have sunk in. The audience turned up in force; the programme found favour with both visitors and locals. The most ambitious production, lighting designer Gerry Jenkinson pulling out all the stops as if we were attending a rock concert, a dismembered voice from Mars breaking off relations with our planet and leaving us to stew in our own rancid juice.

In Night, as soon as the bellboy from the hotel cockily enters Mrs. Bramson's bungalow, we know he is the murderer, and we cannot take our eyes off him. Scrub off the greasepaint and none of what happens would stand up to a moment's scrutiny.

But given performances, as here, of adequate power, it all still brings out the goose-pimplies.

Iain Stuart-Robinson struck just the right arrogant notes as the diabolical Dan.

Bridget McCann was also memorable for her portrait of

Both show an isolated villa, or bungalow, as a model of war England, distilling its shabby anxieties; on the one hand the melodrama, and on the other into farce. Here was the same sort of performance of the surrounding countryside as well. We saw the English closing in on the little band of peasants scholars imposing their alien language but not their will. Martyn James made some fine work as the pedantic patriarch whose mission in life is to teach Greek to the Celts; Bridget McCann was adept at showing how instant love may bridge a language gap; and Michael Loney made a most plausible turncoat.

The Pitlochry tradition of Plays in Progress continue to flourish. These performances are given in a workshop format in the restaurant on Saturday mornings, with the audience encouraged to discuss the work afterwards.

ANTHONY CURTIS

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Tuesday August 23 1983

Funds for the IMF

THIS YEAR, next year, some time never. That ultimate in well-seasoned issues, the idea that the International Monetary Fund might turn to the capital markets for finance, is receiving another airing. One argument is that the fund is courting a financial crisis. Once again there is speculation that the fund may have to borrow from sources other than governments to get round it. And once again inquiry reveals that some of the fund's most important member nations are rootedly opposed to the idea.

By its own cautious accounting norms the fund is, indeed, rather overstretched at the moment. It has had its recent burst of activity in helping to avert a global banking crisis led to a substantial increase in its lending commitments. On the other, the emphatic raising of its quotas—the IMF's basic source of funds—agreed in principle by the membership last February, will not become available until early next year, assuming there are no further hitches from a reluctant U.S. Congress.

Reluctant

Meanwhile, direct borrowing from members—the Fund's secondary source of hard currencies—has proved together this year. Saudi Arabia, which has provided the bulk of the IMF's additional resources so far in 1983, is reluctant to continue the diet at a time when the softness of the oil market is obliging it to cut expenditure at home.

True, the fund's General Arrangements to borrow from major industrial countries were boosted in January from roughly \$7bn to \$15bn—but this increase, too, will not come into effect until early next year and it is not at all clear that the IMF can use the GAB to fund an increase in the normal level of its activities. The conditions attached to the revamped GAB require "the existence of an exceptional situation associated with balance of payments problems of a character or aggregate size that could threaten the stability of the international monetary system." This implies that the GAB is a safety net rather than a permanent source of hard currency.

Abstract

For the moment the IMF is stretched only in a rather modest fashion. It is in the matter of commitments that the IMF knows that it is committed to lend and should therefore pin down sources of money—rather than at the level of disbursements that a gap exists. Even this gap, predicted to be \$6.5bn at the end of this year, presupposes that various IMF norms on the pattern of its funding and the degree of its liquidity remain sacrosanct.

A warning from the weatherman

WHEN the weather is good, there are very few complaints about weather forecasting; so nobody is likely to challenge the authority of Sir John Mason, head of the Meteorological Office, when in his presidential address to the British Association he offers some comments on other forms of forecasting, and economic forecasting in particular. On the other hand, the howl of complaints about economic forecasting seems to have receded since it began to enjoy some sort of economic recovery—though the recovery is so far behind its forecast date that Mrs. Sylvia Ostry, of the OECD, confessed at a recent conference that it might be described as "déjà vu". Sir John would have made bigger headlines last year.

Estimates

Economic forecasting must indeed look pretty squashed as viewed from the Met Office. Weather forecasts are based on accepted scientific laws; economic forecasting equations might be described as pre-tempered by experience. The weathermen have up-to-the-minute facts on which to base their calculations—a third of a million observations every 12 hours. Economists work with official statistics some weeks behind the event which are themselves out of date, and subject to heavy revision. Weathermen can rely on the succession of the seasons and the rising and setting of the sun; economists still debate the timing and cause of the various cycles, agreeing only that they are of irregular length.

In all these circumstances it is amazing that economic forecasting "works" at all—and some forecasters modestly

INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS to rescue Brazil from its \$80bn foreign debt crisis seem poised to enter a delicate new phase—one which could place severe strains on the country's social and political fabric.

After two months of tough negotiations the Government has now reached outline agreement with the International Monetary Fund on a revised programme of economic retrenchment for the next two years.

But even at this late stage there are signs—notably a hurried weekend visit to Paris of Sr. Antonio Nettle, the Planning Minister—that Brazil may still be anxious to soften some of the IMF's conditions.

The deal—which is unlikely to get final IMF approval before October—is expected to have two principal effects on the debt crisis.

• Most immediately, it could give the green light for the release of nearly \$1.1bn of international bank loans to Brazil frozen last May when the country failed to meet the terms of an economic programme agreed with the IMF in February. Additional frozen IMF funds would be released once the package was formally approved.

This would help alleviate the country's acute liquidity crisis.

• Since Brazil's only hard currency receipts have been from exports—nowhere near enough to meet its interest payments and current account deficit.

• The deal could also pave the way for a much larger refinancing programme this autumn, including the raising of over \$9bn in fresh loans.

But the domestic political price for the new austerity package may be very high. Discontent over the economic medicine Brazil is having to swallow is already running high. Unemployed workers rioted in São Paulo last May and since then there has been a rash of public sector strikes, culminating in an attempted one day national stoppage last month.

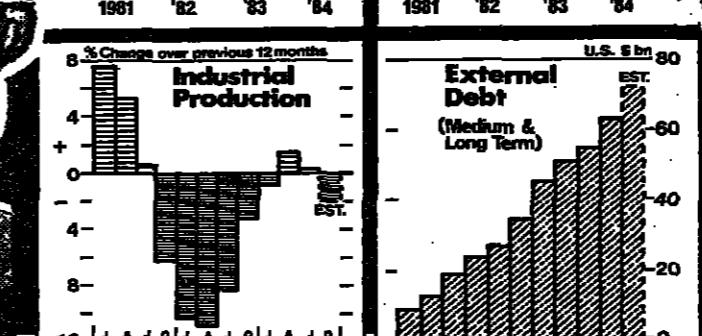
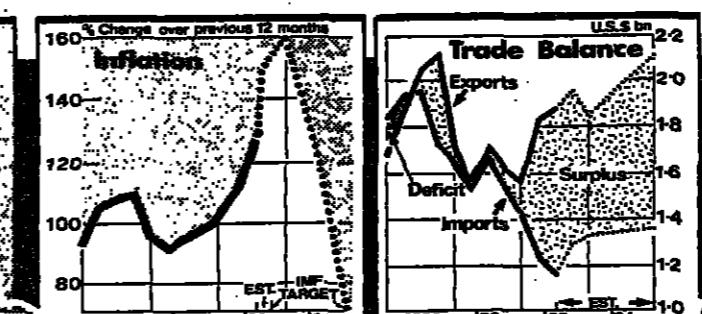
Further trouble could place a question-mark over the future of the "political liberalisation" programme by the military Government known as "abertura." This has already led to the election of a new Congress which itself has been sharply critical of the IMF inspired package.

We do not believe that the IMF should change into a development agency. This business is the province of the World Bank, which already borrows on the capital market with the implicit backing of member governments. The IMF's emphasis on temporary finance in return for disciplined economic management should remain. But the fund's executive and major members must think through and face up to the IMF's probable responsibility as the volume of fresh international bank lending contracts and as the excessive borrowing of the past becomes harder and harder to refund.

Like it or not, the IMF is taking a task outside its original terms of reference. It should be ready to raise the volume and maturity of finance it needs for the job.



By Andrew Whitley in Rio de Janeiro



In addition, there is the question of repaying the balance of \$1.25bn left over from last year's commercial bank "bridge loans." But few bankers seriously expect this particular debt to be repaid in the near future.

This is all the unfinished business of Stage One of "Operation Rescue Brazil," now drawing to a close; the debris of a succession of ad hoc efforts to get a grip on the scale of Brazilian indebtedness, and come up with effective remedies.

Once the IMF Board gives the new package its expected approval some time in October, Stage Two can begin.

Externally, the goal will be to draw on the hard experience of the past nine months and weave together the bank creditors, the multilateral lending institutions, Western central banks and the IMF into a much tighter mesh than before.

Privately, Government officials and Western bankers already accept that debt principal payments will not be made in 1984, and probably not in 1985.

The real problem is over how to handle interest payments currently running at twice the size of this year's anticipated trade surplus, without permitting the loans concerned to become "non-performing assets" on the books of the U.S. banks, the largest lenders to Brazil with over \$20bn at risk.

The latest estimate is that to the end of 1984 Brazil will need an additional \$9bn or more in foreign loans. The plan is for two-thirds of this sum to come from the international capital market and one-third from official institutions.

Among the official sources of funds, the Exim Bank loans large with a recently promised \$1.5bn in support of projects and contracts awarded to U.S. business. Commodity credits from the U.S. on similar lines to the funds made available to Mexico last year, would be another possibility under consideration.

The World Bank, which has already doubled its lending to Brazil over the past 12 months, and the Inter-American Development Bank would also help out by disbursing funds more rapidly than normal.

But the bulk of the responsibility for helping Brazil survive intact on its present political and economic course will have to fall on the International banks, which once again will be under pressure to provide fresh funds.

The liquidity squeeze has shown up inevitably in mounting payment arrears. \$1.4bn by the last official count and privately Government officials admit to \$2bn.

Excluded from these figures, but still due to be paid once the delayed IMF funds come in, is the \$400m owed to the Bank for International Settlements since the end of May, and the next tranche of \$400m due to be repaid at the end of this month.

The domestic political price for the new austerity package may be very high

agreement, bankers and the Fund will want to be assured of the wage legislation's implementation before unlocking frozen funds and providing new ones.

Opposition to the Bill—the first IMF-inspired measure seriously to hurt the man in the street—is almost universal, in and out of Congress. But with so much at stake—saving Brazil from an uncontrollable chaotic halt to payments on its external debt—the military are making clear they do not intend to allow the necessities of democratic procedures to get in the way of the legislation.

The Bill "will get through Congress" one way or another, General Rubem Ludwig, the chief military aide of President Joao Figueiredo, said grimly a few days ago.

The danger is that Congress's new stand on its traditional prerogatives, in disuse for most of the past 19 years' military rule, could turn the issue, along with that of the IMF agreements as a whole, into a constitutional crisis.

"The main difference between the Brazilian and the Mexican crises," a top Brazilian banker argues, "is that in their case the political framework was known and sound. Our changes are being attempted on shifting political sands."

Gen Figueiredo himself is currently convalescing from heart surgery in the U.S.—his second such operation within a year—and there are fears he may retire because of ill-health before his six-year term of office ends in 18 months.

No obvious successor has emerged, let alone an individual capable of uniting the country or providing fresh leadership.

Opinions vary as to the military's likely response to a worsening of the political climate. Many believe that the IMF package, in exchange for accepting that this year's inflation is likely to be in the 150-180 per cent range, the IMF is understood to have insisted on a very tough target of 70 per cent for 1984, though there are doubts

whether this target can be met in the present political climate.

The revised estimates for nominal GDP growth in 1983 and 1984 are now zero in each year, which means Brazil will have suffered four successive years of negative growth in real terms. Predictions from company analysts are even bleaker, with estimates ranging from nominal GDP declines of 2 to 4 per cent this year down to (in one extreme view) a minus 10 per cent next year.

The public sector deficit which, in the IMF's definition, stood at 16 per cent of GDP in 1982 is to be reduced by three-quarters in two annual stages, by half this year and by half again by the end of 1984.

As for foreign trade, this

managed to lay the groundwork for any debt renegotiation is a considerable achievement. Only two months ago Brazil and its creditors were locked in dispute over the measures.

The impasse was broken by two events. Firstly, the Bank for International Settlements refused a further extension of a loan repayment falling due.

Secondly, M. Jacques de Larosiere, the IMF managing director, sent a team back to Brasilia to discuss tougher medicine with Sr Antonio Figueiredo.

Nevertheless, the fact that the Government and the IMF have

year's anticipated surplus of \$6.3bn, resulting largely from drastic cuts in imports, is to be raised to \$9bn for 1984. The 1983 current account deficit of \$7.5bn is expected to decline significantly.

The trouble is that the government is acting belatedly in a fast-deteriorating business climate. FIESP, the São Paulo Federation of Industry, estimates that in the first half of the year manufacturing output in the state, which accounts for 60 per cent of the national figure, declined by 4 per cent.

The number of companies

defaulting on commercial bids is up sharply, as is the number having to seek court protection from bankruptcy.

Last month's failure of the

Men & Matters

Rubber stamp

Captains of British industry will no doubt recall the rousing words of Sir Campbell Fraser earlier in the summer when he sent out invitations to next month's "Can You Make It? Exhibition in West London.

"I feel sure that you will want to take this opportunity to strengthen Britain's competitive position and to generate business here in the UK," wrote the President of the CBI to 250 company chairmen and chief executives, having explained that the aim of the show is to put on display imported manufactured components and assemblies which big companies would buy in Britain if the political scene were right.

It naturally came as something of a surprise to learn yesterday that Sir Campbell's own company, Dunlop Holdings, will not, in fact, be among those exhibiting. The reasons for this are not clear, but it is likely that they will get delusions of grandeur, believing that they can see and control the future. There may have been times when this was indeed a danger, and there are still a few back-benchers, commentators and even academics who are starry-eyed about forecasting. However, such illusions seldom last in office for long, and the present Government seems never to have held them at all.

What Sir John fears is that those who take actual decisions will be so impressed by the technology of forecasting—the hundreds of equations and the realms of computers print-outs that they will get delusions of grandeur, believing that they can see and control the future.

There may have been times when this was indeed a danger, and there are still a few back-benchers, commentators and even academics who are starry-eyed about forecasting. However, such illusions seldom last in office for long, and the present Government seems never to have held them at all.

"If there was something worth putting there we would do so," said a Dunlop spokesman.

He put three companies on display at the exhibition, which he didn't get much response from.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Tuesday August 23 1983

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Western expatriates in exodus from the Gulf

BY KATHY EVANS IN KUWAIT

AN HISTORIC trend is beginning in the Gulf - more expatriates are leaving than are coming in. In some areas such as Dubai, an exodus is under way, particularly of Western, mainly British, businessmen and their families.

For years, many states in the region experienced phenomenal growth in population - in Abu Dhabi, in 1978 alone, by as much as 30 per cent. The influx of foreigners and the strain placed on the region's culture and society was a continuing source of anxiety of governments. But now, public expenditure cutbacks as a result of lower oil income are stimulating the departure of thousands of foreigners.

Officials in the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait say that foreigners, both Arab and Western, are leaving in greater numbers than ever. In the UAE, a Planning Ministry report shows that for the first time the growth rate in the number of nationals was greater than that

of expatriates - 7.6 per cent as against 5.5 per cent a year.

In Kuwait, Labour Ministry officials say that 4,318 people left the country within the past three months. In Qatar, business estimates suggest that at least 1,000 British businessmen and their families have left the country since the spending cutbacks, and that the population may be shrinking by about 15 per cent.

In the UAE, local businessmen say that one factor in the current exodus is the Government's ban on foreigners changing jobs. Expatriates now have to spend a minimum of six months out of the country before returning for work. But the retrenchment in spending has caused private-sector companies to look hard at their costs, and frequently the most expensive item on the labour bill is Western expatriate managers. Most Western managerial staff enjoy high salaries, fully paid accommodation in luxurious villas, and

even government jobs are proving secure. The Federal Government recently let nearly 1,000 teachers go.

About the only booming business at the moment is for the removal companies. One British company, Scotpac International, said it was currently moving out 140 British families a month from the UAE, an increase of 30 per cent on the year.

In contrast, only five or six British citizens, usually without families, entered the country, mainly for lower supervisory engineering jobs. "Senior management seems to be leaving permanently. People are deserting the place," commented one company official.

Another U.S. removal company said it was exceptionally busy, handling about one family a day. "Most of the traffic is going to the UK, though some is going to Bahrain and Oman where business is better," one official said.

A management recruitment com-

pany in Abu Dhabi, Lansdowne

(Gulf) said many British expatriates had found themselves "on the skids, even after years in the Gulf."

An Abu Dhabi manager, Mr Peter Reynolds, said: "A lot of administration managers have been got rid of. There have been definite re-percussions on the employment scene because of the budget." British managers had been commanding perhaps "unreasonable salaries" before, "but the days of 70 are long over."

Currently, trading companies in the Gulf are attracting between 250 and 300 replies for every advertisement for the post of general manager placed in the London papers. For engineering positions, there are over 1,000 applications for every job. "But even some newly employed people are finding themselves being released shortly after arrival. The Gulf is not longer a secure job area," said the Lansdowne executive.

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is compatible with the few known facts and points to a field which would merit commercial development.

Investors happy to accept all the provisos about its very existence, though, must also take account of the development risks of the field, ranging from the possibility of a state dilution for future funding to the vagaries of the tax climate. Given these added worries, the Irish stocks at their higher levels have probably discounted anything less than a major discovery.

UK gifts

Like a good ice-cream salesman, the Government Broker rarely misses an opportunity to wheel out his van on a sunny day. So sooner had Friday's U.S. money-supply figures brightened the skies over the gilt-edged market than the man in the white coat was put peddling his wares.

Yesterday, however, he set about his task with unusual urgency. The banking month has only just begun and he already has a good number of firm orders. Yesterday saw a £30 call on the Treasury 9% per cent 1988A stock, of which he has probably sold between £100 and £200m. Before the end of the month, £480m will be due on the Treasury 10 per cent Convertible 1986 so, if both yesterday's taplets sell out, official sales in the current month will total over £1bn.

After heavy sales in July and, so it appears, in August, some buyers may conclude that the state ice-cream company's weather service is anticipating a cold and gloomy autumn. That impression is endorsed by the range of goods on offer. There is now a flavour available for each sector of the conventional market and the man in the van seems anxious to sell very long blocks which, until recently, were reserved for private-sector vendors.

THE LEX COLUMN Why Irish eyes are smiling

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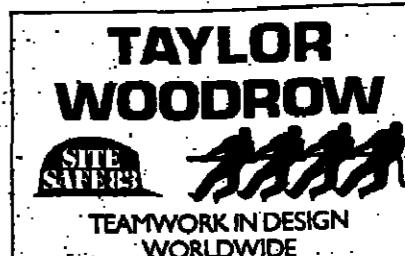
The streets of Dublin on the other



SECTION II - INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

FINANCIAL TIMES

Tuesday August 23 1983



Fiat invests \$170m in Brazilian operations

BY ANDREW WHITLEY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

FIAT SpA, the Italian vehicle manufacturer, is to increase its capital in its two loss-making Brazilian subsidiaries, Fiat Automóveis and FBM, by \$170m.

The capital injection is needed to meet planned investments for the *Uno* family of cars, to be launched in Brazil in the second half of 1984.

However, Fiat's Brazilian partner, the Minas Gerais state government, will not be participating in this latest capital increase for the smallest of Brazil's big five multinational vehicle manufacturers.

"How could the state government have subscribed \$40m?" asked Sr Amaro Lanari Junior, the Government-appointed president of Fiat Automóveis, following the company's decision.

Minas Gerais has not yet fully met its share of two previous capital increases, in 1979 and 1982, and like most Brazilian states is in deep financial difficulties.

After 10 days of talks in Belo Horizonte, the Minas Gerais capital,

where the car plant is located, Fiat executives decided last Thursday to go ahead with the new increase.

Some \$100m is to be allocated to Fiat Automóveis and \$70m to FBM, which makes engine blocks and other vehicle parts. Before the increase Fiat Automóveis' capital was registered at Cr 145bn (\$22m).

Fiat was able to reduce its losses significantly last year, largely due to its export programme of shipping built-up Brazilian cars back to its home market.

But with all its major competitors in Brazil launching new models this year, the Italian company clearly had little option but to go ahead with the *Uno* investment if it wanted to stay in Brazil. The Fiat decision is likely to be welcomed by the Brazilian Government, which has been forced progressively to scale down estimates of foreign investment this year. Fiat's capital represents a third of the \$500m Brazil expects to be invested this year by foreign companies.

The decision "reaffirms our confidence in the ability of the country to overcome its foreseeable difficulties," the company said.

In the first half of 1983 Fiat produced 73,000 vehicles in Brazil, compared with 165,500 in the whole of last year, according to ANFAVEA, the national vehicle manufacturers' association.

Murdoch uses Australian news agency to lift stake in Reuters

BY LACHLAN DRUMMOND IN SYDNEY

MR RUPERT Murdoch's News Corporation has increased its indirect ownership of Reuters, the London-based news agency, and improved the competitive position of its Australian newspapers, as a result of a reorganisation of the Australian Associated Press, Australia's media-owned news agency.

AAP owns 13.8 per cent of Reuters, and, before the reorganisation and restructuring announced yesterday, News Corp had 5.8 per cent of the voting rights at AAP.

In AAP's new form, News Corp has 12 per cent in AAP Pty, the company holding the Reuters shares, and 15 per cent of AAP Information Services Pty, the operating arm spun off from AAP Pty.

The reorganisation has also confirmed the dominant shareholding positions of the Sydney-based Fairfax media group and the Melbourne-based Herald and Weekly Times and its satellites, each group

now with 42.8 per cent of the investment arm and 39.9 per cent of the operating offshoot. Previously AAP had been structured under an archaic system where each member's financial commitment was measured in voting rights not in size of shareholding.

These rights were determined essentially on usage of the system and were interlinked with the proportion of the annual subsidy paid by each member shareholder to make up the deficiency of revenues over outgoings for AAP.

However, as all but his original Adelaide newspaper interests were not full members of AAP, the Murdoch stake was small, and indeed unrepresented at board level.

News Corp will now have one member on the boards of the two linked AAP companies and will gain access to the domestic news service and the Reuter originated

foreign service for Mr Murdoch's main Sydney newspapers.

No details of the cost of the exercise to News Corp were revealed although it was less than \$A20m (\$17.5m).

The moves to reorganise AAP pre-dated the speculation of a float for Reuter, as did News Corp efforts to increase its presence at AAP. They also represented efforts to place the news service on a more commercial footing as it attempts to build itself into a mini-Reuters and to prevent the recently instituted Reuter dividend being soaked up as a general subsidy to the AAP news service.

However, the benefits of a clearly focused vehicle with a 13.8 per cent stake in Reuter are clear to all concerned, none more so than News Corp, which has an indirect 8 per cent stake in the London agency through its UK publishing interests.

Provisions hold NMB in check

BY WALTER ELLIS IN AMSTERDAM

AN UNUSUALLY large increase in its provisions against debt has held first-half earnings of the Nederlandse Middenstandsbank (NMB) to only F1 54.8m (\$18.6m), 9 per cent up on the first six months of 1982. The gross result, however, is up 50 per cent to F1 385m, and the bank - the country's fourth largest - expects earnings for 1983 as a whole to be no less than for the previous 12 months.

The jump in provisions, by 86 per cent to F1 290m, reflects not only the NMB's determination to rebuild its reserves after the depletions of

the last two years, but also the extent of its exposure to the vicissitudes of the domestic economy.

The bank is traditionally strong in the business loans sector, and recovery by Dutch companies from the world economic recession is showing only the earliest signs of its arrival.

Mr A. A. Soetekouw, a member of the board of management, said yesterday that the extent of provisions represented a prudent approach to developments in the economy generally, and should be seen against

the 30 per cent improvement in the gross result.

If earnings had included the F1 19.2m contributed by the wholly-owned NMS savings bank, the net result would have been up 32 per cent (compared with 22 per cent for ABN and Amro) and 11 per cent for the NCB, but savings banks profits are not paid out.

Mr Soetekouw said that the improvement this year was the result mainly of three factors: improved interest margins, commission on equity and bond trading, and profit from currency transactions.

Sharp setback for Safmarine

BY OUR JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH AFRICAN Marine Corp (Safmarine), the national carrier, suffered badly from the international shipping recession in the year to June 30 1983. Turnover fell by one third, to R420m (\$430m), from R724m, while trading profit before depreciation and interest payments fell by more than half to R84.8m.

Mr Marion Marsh, chairman, said that the lengthy downturn in international business and con-

sequently South Africa's trade continued.

Safmarine was particularly badly hit by the fall in South Africa's imports, a trend which only developed at the start of the shipping company's present financial year. Nevertheless, Mr Marsh said that on the positive side Safmarine's profit performance compared well with the best in the industry.

At present Safmarine has plans

to buy five new ships at a total cost of R100m and delivery is scheduled over the next few months. The group also has plans to reintroduce regular liner services from Europe to South Africa. This will in part be done in conjunction with the company's new partners in the casino business, the Kerzner interests, Southern Sun and Holiday Inns.

Earnings per share fell to 45 cents last year.

IDC have been known since 1979. IDC is also committed to purchasing the remaining 50 per cent of the third plant, Safsol 3, at some later stage from IDC.

In the year ended June 25, Safsol's pre-tax profits rose to R388m from R348m previously. The second plant provided R196.3m of this and the third R160m. Safsol 2 has declared a total dividend of R50m.

The 10.5 per cent drop in volume sales to 31,998 units for Mitsubishi came as overall industry new registrations were off by 10.9 per cent.

Mitsubishi yesterday said the latest forecasts indicated an overall 12 per cent decline in registrations for the industry in 1983 from the record 629,122 units of 1982 to 554,000.

In the half year just ended, Mitsubishi said depressed market conditions were compounded by continued widespread discounting, which was most evident in the 14.3 per cent drop in turnover to \$420m reported by AMI on its 4.9 per cent fall in volume.

Nordic consortium era nears end

BY KEVIN DONE IN STOCKHOLM

THE LARGE Nordic banks originally came to London more than 10 years ago as shareholders in two main consortia, Scandinavian Bank and Nordic Bank, but they are now striking out on their own.

Last year, Svenska Handelsbanken took the investment banking team from Nordic Bank and established its own London operation.

Svenska International, as a branch of its Luxembourg subsidiary.

At the same time Handelsbanken's main competitor in Sweden, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, also set up its own London operation, Eksilida Securities. S-E Banken managed to pluck seven top executives from Hambros Bank to help set up its London bank.

Svenska International started operations in November last year, chiefly to engage in international capital markets transactions for Swedish corporate customers.

During the early part of 1983, Svenska International has expanded its activities to include foreign exchange money market and credits.

Recession hits Amic first-half earnings

BY OUR JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT

ANGLO American Industrial Corp (Amic), the industrial arm of the Anglo American group, was badly affected by South Africa's recession in the six months to June 30 1983.

First-half turnover slid to R705m (\$61.1m). The trading profit dropped to R65.5m from R85.5m.

The directors forecast no improvement in trading conditions until next year at the earliest.

The recession affected virtually all of the group's industrial interests, which include steel, ferroalloy, paper, food, mining equipment and electronics.

The worst affected, however, was the troubled Sigma motor car manufacturing division. This was hit with quality control difficulties, poor market acceptance and a high degree of management turnover and continued to generate losses at an annual rate of about R50m. In the half-year just ended Sigma generated yet another loss, which has not been charged against Amic's own profit in the consolidated accounts.

The directors say that consideration will be given at the year's end to making an additional provision against Amic's investment in the motor company.

The interim dividend remains unchanged at 55 cents, despite the fact first-half earnings dropped to 16.5 cents a share from 23.4 cents.

In 1982 earnings totalled 41.6 cents a share from which dividends of 18 cents were distributed. The directors say that this year's second half is expected to result in earnings similar to those of the first half.

ESAB profits decline 10% at midway

BY DAVID BROWN IN STOCKHOLM

ESAB, the Swedish welding equipment group, has reported a 10 per cent decline in first half pre-tax profits to SKr 65m (\$8.4m).

Sales rose 3 per cent to SKr 1.1bn compared with the same period a year ago.

Mr Kjell Johansson, group finance director, attributed the result to continuing weakness in most of the traditional markets. Demand for hand-operated welding machines and associated products continued to decline - in the case of Western Europe by 15 per cent, and in the U.S. and Brazil by 30 per cent. Foreign sales account for 90 per cent of the group total.

The group increased its market share with an acquisition and rationalisation programme, and maintained overall volumes. Market trends improved in the second quarter, particularly in the automatic and semi-automatic areas said Mr Johansson.

ESAB acquired the welding division of the British Oxygen Company in July. The new subsidiary, Murex Welding Products, had sales of £2.2m last year.

The group predicts that the developments in the market will allow it to post a full profit near the SKr 160m achieved last year.

Mexico sets payments on bank shareholdings

BY WILLIAM CHISLETT IN MEXICO CITY

THE MEXICAN Government yesterday announced its first compensation payments for 11 of the 53 banks which were nationalised almost a year ago.

Shareholders in Bancomer, the largest bank, are to receive a total payment of 30.6bn pesos (\$206.5m). Banex, the second biggest, 27.6bn pesos and Banreservas, the third largest, 10.7bn pesos. These three banks control more than half the market.

These payments will be paid with nine-year government bonds, which will pay a commercial rate of interest. The bonds will be traded on the Mexican stock exchange. The first capital payments will be made in

September.

The compensation payments reflect the "adjusted" net worth of the banks on August 31, 1982, the eve of their takeover. The Finance Ministry said various adjustments were made to the banks' net worth to reflect the real value of their assets and the position of their credit portfolios.

The Government, however, has still not decided the fate of the more than 400 companies in which the 53 banks had large equity stakes. It is understood that the Government

will keep control only of those companies which it considers are in strategic sectors of the economy.

It is expected that bond holders

will be able to purchase shares in companies formerly owned by banks once the Government has decided what it will do with the equity stakes.

The banks were taken over by the Government of Sr Lopez Portillo, three months before he left office, in what was regarded as a popular move to settle the country's debt crisis.

The new Government of President Miguel de la Madrid, which privately admits that the nationalisation was not necessary, has attached great importance to settling the compensation issue as quickly and as generously as possible, in the hope of restoring some of the battered private sector's confidence.

Tymshare announced yesterday

that it had received formal notice

of its take-over by Wang Laboratories, the fast growing U.S. computer group, is planning to buy a stake of up to 25 per cent in the California-based Tymshare, the leading independent computer time sharing group in the U.S.

Tymshare has been facing problems over the last year because demand for its traditional services has fallen.

Declining computer hardware costs and rising telecommunications costs are apparently encouraging its customers to use alternative information gathering sources.

Tymshare announced yesterday that Wang Laboratories intends to purchase Tymshare common stock sufficient to bring its holdings to a value in excess of \$15m and may purchase enough shares to constitute between 15 per cent and 25 per cent.

Tymshare's earnings have fallen

substantially from their 1982 peak

of \$1.81 per share. In 1982 it earned 73 cents a share and in the first six months of the current year its net income fell by 76 per cent to \$2.07 on revenues 7 per cent lower at \$15.1m.

Elkem to buy Comilog stake

BY FAY GJESTER IN OSLO

ELKEM of Norway and its U.S. subsidiary, Elkem Metals Company, major producers of ferroalloys, are to buy a 6 per cent stake in an African company that produces high quality manganese ore. The company, Comilog, in Gabon, is owned by the Gabon Government and French and U.S. companies, including U.S. Steel. Elkem is paying about \$3.5m for the share it is buying, from French and American companies.

NYSE plans to alter listing requirements

BY WILLIAM HALL IN NEW YORK

THE New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is planning to change its listing requirements to encourage more growth stocks, many of which are traded heavily on the over-the-counter (OTC) market, to get a listing on the big board.

The main change proposed is that the required profit record of a company seeking listing can be shortened. Under present listing requirements a New York Stock Exchange company has to have earned \$2.5m or more in the most recent year. In addition it needs to demonstrate that it has 2,000 shareholders and an average monthly

trading volume of 100,000 shares. Under present requirements companies seeking a prospective listing have had to demonstrate that they had 2,000 shareholders who owned 100 shares or more. Under the new rules there is no minimum shareholding requirement for individual shareholders.

The NYSE hopes that the changes in its listing requirements will encourage more companies to switch from the OTC to the big board.

Although the new rules will not lead to a big change in the number of companies listed on the big board, it reflects the concern of America's senior stock exchange about the rapid growth of trading volume on the rival OTC market.

Market reports, Page 19

• ASEA has continued to strengthen its market position in important segments in the U.S. and Western Europe.

• Earnings have improved considerably in most business areas.

• The profit increase is a consequence of higher margins and the gradually increasing effect of restructurings.

• ASEA

UK COMPANY NEWS

W. N. Sharpe lower in first half

Turnover of greeting cards manufacturer and publisher, W. N. Sharpe Holdings, was little changed at £7.89m, against £7.92m in the first half of 1982, but pre-tax profits dropped from £2.46m to £1.75m.

Trading surplus declined from £9.7m to £5.1m, but the directors say that indications are that full year trading figures will be close to the 1982 level. Investment income however will be substantially less, reflecting lower interest rates.

Investment income in the first six months slipped from £255,000 to £100,000, after tax of £370,000 (£1.02m), earnings per 25p share fell by 7.6p to 12p. The interim dividend however is up by 0.5p to 4.5p net—last year's total was 3p on £4.99m pre-tax profits.

The directors report that prospects for the Christmas seasonal business appear to be similar to last year. There are good reasons to expect overall sales growth in the second six months,

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

	Current payment	Date of payment	Corporation day	Total spending	Total for year	Total last year
Coleman Milne & Independent	Int. 0.6	Nov 11	6.5	—	15	—
Newspapers int. 4	Oct 1	4	—	11	—	—
Kear & Scott int. 0.33	Nov 4	4.2	6.3	6.3	—	—
Peerless	4.2	—	4	—	9	—
W. N. Sharpe	Int. 4.5	—	4.5	—	9	—
Woodhouse & Rixen	Int. 0.5	Oct 14	0.75	0.1	1.9	—
Sopra Group	Int. 0.75	Oct 14	0.75	—	1.5	—
Woodhouse & Rixen int. 0.5	—	—	0.75	—	1.5	—

Dividends shown per share net except where otherwise stated. * Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. ‡ USM stock 18 Irish pence throughout.

nearly 20 per cent drop in pre-tax profits. Retailers have cut back savagely on stock levels and price cutting is widespread. The result is that Sharpe's margins have slipped around 9 percentage points, but with profit margins still at just over 22 per cent, the group has plenty left to fight with. Rather than trim margins further, Sharpe has attempted to diversify by taking on an agency agreement with a U.S. gift manufacturer in its first ever step away from traditional greetings cards. At the same time, the group has added 200 dealers to its 1,900-strong network of outlets but is still restricting its trade to the middle and quality end of the market. If the gift operation produces the volumes Sharpe is hoping for, the group may be able to claw its way back to 14.25p per share for the full year, still some way below 1982's figures. The shares were unchanged at 35.5p.

• comment

The high fixed overheads of card printing mean that small fluctuations in turnover can have a much larger effect on profits. So Sharpe's 4 per cent slippage in sales becomes a

J. W. Spear incurs £0.29m deficit

By William Dawkins

J. W. Spear & Sons, the Bedford-based toy and games manufacturer, reported a loss before tax of £287,000 for the year to December 1982, the first time it has ever fallen into the red. The group, best known for being the maker of Scrabble, also announced that it had sold the unprofitable Dutch operation which, at the heart of its problems, thereby incurring an extraordinary debt of £1.4m. Losses from the Dutch operation, SIO BV, more than wiped out the pre-tax profit of £150,000 in the previous year. J. W. Spear made a profit of £574,000 on a turnover of £14.6m. Turnover in 1982 declined to £12.4m. This reflected a continuing annual dividend of 4.5p, compared with 6p net in 1981.

In a statement, the chairman said: "Faced with heavy trading losses and the lack of any real prospects of improvement in trading conditions, the board decided that it would be in the best interests of the group to dispose of the remainder of its Dutch operation."

In the interim report, the group said it had already disposed of its W. J. Spear & Sons BV, Dutch wholesaling subsidiary. It acquired the Dutch companies in March 1980 from the now-defunct Dunbee-Comber-Marx.

In the six months to June 1983, SIO made a loss of about £196,000. It was paid for a nominal sum to SBWV, manufacturers of Simpler puzzles.

Turnover 1982 1981 1980

£m £m £m

Loss from ops. 12.37 12.37 12.37

Associates profits 166 145 145

Profit less 287 424 424

Net loss 265 308 308

Minority interest 111 45 45

Extraordinary debit 1,416 1,416 1,416

Attributed net 1,707 2,070 2,070

Dividend 4 242 242

Required less 1,705 211 211

Profit less 1,705 211 211

Charge 21 21 21

• comment

Spear's heavy £1.4m write-off on its disastrous Dutch venture caused not a ripple in the market yesterday and the shares ended unchanged at 35p, valuing the group at £15m—substantial given the net assets of around £5m. The market had already discounted Spear's problems as well as the difficulties in the market generally and was no doubt relieved to see the back of the troublesome SIO subsidiary. The Dutch operation looked cheap and potentially profitable when Spear picked it up three years ago, but the subsequent collapse of the European market put considerable pressure on volumes and margins. Borrowings tend to fluctuate wildly as much of the group's output is sold on extended credit then, but they are unlikely to be more than 40 per cent of shareholders' funds as the market usually drops sharply at Christmas when payment starts flooding in. Even though the current year will show the benefits of eliminating SIO's losses, Spear is only just beginning to digest the effects of the slowdown in the birth rate which took place in the late 1980s and looks unlikely to reach 1981's profit level of £267,000 this time.

The directors say that the past two years, the group has changed from primarily a food wholesaler to a retailer.

On the acquisition of Key Markets the chairman says it can be expected to further the group's retailing particularly in the South and West. Analysts say that the price paid—which has even risen to a goodwill element of £2.5m—will show it to be an attractive investment.

The more aggressive pricing policy and better dry goods grocery merchandising which has transformed the Gateway operation will be applied to the

Meeting, Howard Hotel, WC, September 21, 10.30 am.

Resource Tech. advances

OPTIMISM ABOUT the future of Linfood Holdings is expressed by Mr Alec Monk, the chairman, in his annual statement.

Mr Monk says the morale of the management throughout the company is very high and the future offers many opportunities. "Much still needs to be done but progress is being made on many fronts and a determination to succeed has taken root. We are optimistic about the company's future."

As already known, pre-tax profits for the 53 weeks ending April 30, 1983, climbed by 42.4 per cent to £16.9m, against £11.9m, on total sales of £91.0m (£10.4bn including £22.8m from the sold delivered wholesale business).

The group, whose supermarkets include Frank Dee, Gateway and the recently acquired Key Markets group, is changing its name to Dee Corporation. Mr Monk says the name reflects the historical roots of the supermarket management and does not limit the company to any particular pursuit—over

the past two years, the group has changed from primarily a food wholesaler to a retailer.

The operations of Gateway Supermarkets and Frank Dee Supermarkets have been merged from the beginning of the current year. Similarly, the Key Markets stores will also be integrated into Gateway and ultimately, over two or three years, will also trade under the Gateway fascia.

The accounts reveal that £100,000 was paid in respect of compensation for loss of office to directors.

Meeting, Howard Hotel, WC, September 21, 10.30 am.

Resource Tech. advances

In the year to April 30 1983 Unlisted Securities Market quoted Resource Technology, supplier of products and services to natural resources explorers and extractors, advanced taxable profits from £330,000 to £744,000, on turnover ahead at £4.11m against £3.67m.

The directors say the current year should see further broadening of the scope of the group's activities, both by acquisition and the establishment of further new businesses.

After a nil tax charge (£62,000) earnings per 10p share are given as 9p (8p on old capital). There is no dividend.

Supra moves ahead over six months

FOR THE YEAR ending November 30 1982 the directors of SUPRA GROUP are expecting a "satisfactory result." Growth has been achieved in the first half and progress continues with current turnover showing further improvement this year.

In the six months to May 31 1983 turnover has risen from £5m to £5.32m and profits from £262,000 to £321,000. The net attributable balance is only £4,000 higher at £51.000, as tax taken at 28.000 (£55,000) and this time there is an associate loss £5,000 and minorities 17,000.

Turnover is up 1.22p (1.2p) per share, and the interim dividend is maintained at 6.5p.

The group makes and distributes motor components, noise control products and paints. Results of Supra Steering, which started trading on April 11, are not included.

The 1982 half year profit reflects an adjustment of almost £19,000 in respect of depreciation on freehold buildings not provided in the previous interim statement although charged in the full year's accounts.

Deposits in Marble House, Warwick, totalled a sum of some £50,000 before tax, which has not been included in the results.

First Charlotte

First Charlotte Assets Trust says that in response to its rights issue of 10.5m new ordinary shares at 10p each, acceptances of 45,232,761 ordinary, representing 96.1 per cent of the issue, have been received.

Applications for excess shares have been received for a total of 11,143,305 ordinary, and all applicants will receive approximately 16 per cent of their applications.

Hay & Robertson

Reduced pre-tax losses of £57,555 against £102,607 have been shown by Fife-based textile manufacturer Hay & Robertson for the year to the end of May, 1983. Turnover slipped from £196,116 to £181,827. There is again no dividend.

LADBROKE INDEX

736.742 (+5)
based on FT Index
Tel: 01-493 5261

Peerless at £1.5m after recovery in second half

THE £465,000 mid-way profits shortfall at Peerless was made up in the second six months ended March 31 1983. The company finished the year with pre-tax figures up slightly from £1.47m to £1.51m, on turnover £23.76m higher at £26.75m.

Losses continued within the group's domestic engineering companies throughout the year, although at a considerably reduced rate. But the main problem of the retail distribution company—Peerless Homecentres—they were breaking even at the end of the first quarter of the current year.

The future of Homecentres, say the directors, is under consideration.

The group—which operates in

BOARD MEETINGS

FUTURE DATES

Interim	Sept 12
Euro International	Sept 6
Greenwich Cable Comms	Aug 25
Inv. Trust of Guernsey	Aug 25
Lucas (UK) Ltd	Sept 15
London Daily Post and Echo	Aug 25
Quinn's Motor Houses	Aug 25
Robinson (Thomas)	Aug 25
Scotia Northern Inv Trust	Aug 25
Telephone Rentals	Oct 19

• comment

Peerless has still failed to top the 100p a share issue price at which it came to the market in 1980. The share price closed at 98p yesterday giving an historic yield of 10 per cent. The domestic engineering division is finally creeping into profit in the current year, even if it did not make it by the year end. Within the division, the four Homecentre DIY stores will be sold off if the company can get the right price. This leaves just the troubled kitchenware company Glendale to get right. A new line of kitchenware has had a disappointing reception but the company is still hoping for improved sales. Meanwhile, the directors have been meeting at a fast rate, doubling to 20m at the

year end. It reflects the heavy investment in new product development and £2.8m in plant. The foam moulding company just had a break even but has already invested more and should be in profit in the current year. That will add to the profitability of the plastics division which has traditionally been Peerless' biggest profit centre. Peerless has decided to cease giving dividends and will sell off all its assets to find out how the different divisions are performing. However, with domestic engineering edging back into profit shareholders might just see the share price climb to 100p. At 98p, it gives an historic yield of 10 per cent.

Hawley companies rise midway

TWO COMPANIES in the Hawley Group have produced better first-half results in respect of 1983. They are Keen and Scott Holdings and Coleman Milne, and they are both dealt with in the United Securities Market.

For the six months ended June 30 1983 Keen and Scott has produced a pro-forma turnover of £23.42m and a profit before tax just over £2m. Tax rates 20.000, earnings 20.000. Earnings are shown at 1.70 per share. An interim dividend of 0.233p is being paid.

The company is 60 per cent owned by Hawley. It is a broadly diversified home improvements business encompassing Sherpa Bedroom Design, which manufactures custom-built bedroom furniture, Alpine Holdings, the double glazing and Dolphin shower company.

Comparative figures for 1982 show a profit of £18.42m from turnover of £18.42m, subject to tax of £26.000. Earnings were 1.6p. The pre-forma figures in respect of the six months to 1983

McKay Securities

An increase in pre-tax profits from £1.7m to £1.86m has been shown by McKay Securities for the year to the end of March 1983. The final net dividend has been lifted from 1.5p to 1.75p which raises the total to 2.50p.

Earnings per 10p share are shown as rising up from 6p to 6.5p.

A directors' valuation of group properties was carried out on March 31, which showed a surplus of £1.56m which has been credited to capital reserves.

Gross rents and service charges receivable increased from £3.62m to £3.61m.

Tax came to £897,019 (572,370) and there were extraordinary credits of £464,399 (246,470).

TAKEFUJI CORPORATION

(Incorporated in Japan)

US\$ 50,000,000
GUARANTEED TERM LOAN

Nordic Bank PLC
Australian European Finance Corporation N.V.
National Commercial Banking Corporation of Australia Limited
Al Sandi Banque
Svenska Handelsbanken S.A.

Banco Arabe Espanol S.A. "Aresbank"<br

THE MANAGEMENT PAGE : Small Business

CONSUMERS in East Anglia—unwitting guinea pigs for many a new product test marketed in Britain—have recently been sampling a highly unusual new drink named Nature's Wonder.

A glace at the ingredients—pure orange, pineapple and passion fruit juices combined with milk protein—quickly confirms that this exotic sounding beverage is indeed no ordinary drink. The story of why a relatively small dairy company is set to spend £5m manufacturing it for the British market is probably more extraordinary still.

It also clearly illustrates the difficulties any small operation faces when a market it has long been able to exploit relatively unchallenged is suddenly threatened.

Ivan McMurray, chief executive of the co-operative's selling subsidiary, explains both the problem and the option: "There are pressures that we can see coming, such as the threat from cheap imported UHT milk. Like many companies we seem to be faced with a stark choice—expand or die."

The key point in the push for growth is Green Gate Foods, part of the Dungannon, County Tyrone-based Killyman Cooperative Agricultural and Dairy Society in Northern Ireland—came, appropriately enough, on St Patrick's Day (March 17) when the company signed a joint licensing agreement with Sweden's largest food company, the Aria Group.

Aria developed Nature's Wonder a couple of years ago and patented the process which the company says holds the key to the drink's "unique" flavour—namely the hydrolysis of lactose (milk sugar) so as to produce an acid sweetener. Encouraged by its major sales success in Scandinavia, the company not unnaturally decided that what is good for Swedes and other Scandinavians ought also to be good for the rest of us.

Besides the UK and the Republic of Ireland joint licences with companies in Canada and West Germany and other deals as far apart as the U.S. and Australia are currently being negotiated.

Since the 85-year-old Killyman Co-operative has, for much of its life, been content to supply local markets with traditional dairy products such as milk and butter, its choice as Aria's British partner may seem surprising. There are good reasons why the new relationship is appropriate.

First, Northern Ireland has abundant supplies of high quality whey protein, the major waste by-product of local



Ivan McMurray and Harry Stevenson of Green Gate Foods, and Alison Smyth (Miss Northern Ireland) promote one of the company's new products, locally-grown Apple Juice

A stark choice: 'expand or die'

Tim Dickson on how a co-operative faced a threat to its traditional markets

cheese manufacturing and the raw material from which the sweetened sugar for Nature's Wonder will be extracted. Second, the hitherto parochial Killyman is increasingly conscious that its future prosperity depends on developing new products for a wider market place.

Along with deputy chief executive Harry Stevenson, Ivan McMurray—brought into Green Gate two years ago from Dale Farm Ireland (part of the Dungannon plant and a total investment (including fixed assets and working capital) of around £5m. The hope is initially to create 30 new jobs and safe-guard those of the 70 existing employees.

The success of the project obviously depends on the marketing strategy and the reaction of British palates to the new Scandinavian concoction. At 57p to 59p for 200 ml bottles, it will sell at a significant premium over more conventional fruit juices.

McMurray says that the results of market research in Britain so far are "highly encouraging" and, according to Christopher Lawson, chairman of Spearhead, the sales and marketing organisation which is masterminding the promotional campaign, "the reception at an indigenous raw material from the trade and supermarket chains is looking very good."

As Lawson himself admits the consumer market is highly competitive. "Only about one in 10 new products is really a runaway success."

If the proposed transformation of the Killyman Cooperative seems a daunting prospect, Green Gate's new executives can take heart from the recent history of its Swedish partner. For as Kjell Svendson, vice president in charge of Aria's international projects explains, his company faced similar problems in the 1960s. "At that time people in the dairy industry were under great pressure. The arrival of soft margarine for example, was hitting our traditional butter market hard before we knew where we were had lost 10 per cent of it."

Fortunately our president, Jan Eklund, pioneered a new strategy and adopted a new philosophy. He realised that we had good raw materials but that we could only exploit them if we responded to the needs of the market place."

That policy has certainly paid off in the intervening years for besides introducing new products such as fruit juices, fruit yoghurt, cottage cheese and flavoured milks more likely to appeal to the country's health conscious consumers, Aria has built up a strong reputation for innovation and R and D.

Few shoppers will be aware that the popular low calorie high protein spread marketed in the UK under the St Ivel label by Unigate was developed by Aria and the process for making it licensed to the British company.

Unigate, incidentally, was also offered Nature's Wonder but turned it down. Although relations with the British food giant are good, Svendson believes the decision had much to do with the slowly turning wheels of a big company and has found it easier to develop close licensing relationships with smaller companies.

While Unigate will no doubt be pleased if Nature's Wonder is more widely marketed, it will be more delighted if the execution of Northern Ireland's Industrial Development Board. The IDB, which acted as a marriage broker between Aria and Killyman, is expected to provide grants and other forms of selective financial assistance but will not be putting up any extra money in the form of equity or loans for the new project. Other funding will be provided by banks.

More important for Northern Ireland is that Green Gate's plans to add significant value to the new project, the promotional campaign, the reception at an indigenous raw material from the trade and supermarket chains is looking very good."

The first major new products, however—an apple juice made from Bramley apples grown in County Armagh, and an orange drink made from imported concentrate—were only launched in June this year following a £1m investment in new juice extraction plant. Killyman has

for years been extracting juice from apples for sale to the commodity markets but before last month had not sold to the consumer.

The current plans for Nature's Wonder are much wider reaching and, if all goes well, will involve taking Green Gate into new markets, a doubling of capacity at the Dungannon plant and a total investment (including fixed assets and working capital) of around £5m. The hope is initially to create 30 new jobs and safe-guard those of the 70 existing employees.

The success of the project obviously depends on the marketing strategy and the reaction of British palates to the new Scandinavian concoction.

Reviews of the new product process by R. C. Parker in Chartered Mechanical Engineer (UK), Nov 82.

Suggests procedures for developing creative thinking in small businesses and outlines the potential for product innovation in companies with varying levels of technology.

Selecting agents and distributors by J. Thorn in Industrial Marketing Digest (UK), Vol 8 No 1.

Warns of the pitfalls in overseas agent selection, discusses how candidates can be identified and lists the points which the selection interview ought to cover.

What's the truth about heating? by G. Atkin in Works Management (UK), Jan 83.

Looks at the performance of common heating systems in typical factory buildings, comments on the effects of insulation and ventilation, tabulates costs, and gives guidelines on attainable savings.

Management accounting for co-operatives by P. C. Norkeit in Management Accounting (UK), Feb 83.

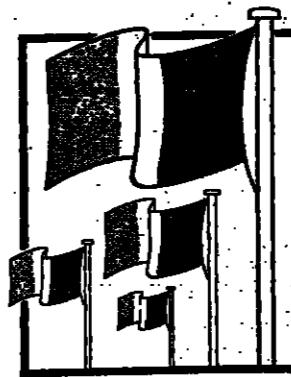
Explains the corporate status and accounting peculiarities of co-operatives and pleads for voluntary assistance from accountants in this "capital-starved sector of commerce." Assessing growth potential in smaller businesses by C. Marouse in Long Range Planning (UK), Feb 83.

Describes the use of charts built up from financial ratios to assess the growth potential of small/medium-sized businesses; shows how the charts can be used for simple solutions.

Entrepreneurial personality by J.C. Ettinger in European Small Business Journal (UK), Winter 83.

A fair share of support

Paul Betts
continues a
series on
international
small business
with a report on
the French scene



ingly come from medium and small enterprises."

Fabius is not alone in urging greater efforts to support medium and small businesses. The recently unveiled nine plan, which outlines the country's economic and social direction during the next five years (1984-88), also places

heavy emphasis on small businesses. One of the main aims of the plan is to devote a larger share of public spending to boost research and development. Public spending for R and D is to be increased to the equivalent of 2.5 per cent

of the country's gross domestic product in 1985 of which 1.5 per cent will directly go to enterprises. At the same time, the share of these funds for small and medium-sized businesses will be increased, the plan says.

Although the main emphasis in the recent plan has been on France's large groups, it would be misleading to think the

authorities only now are beginning to turn their attention to the needs of small businesses.

But 1983 is already proving to be a difficult year for small businesses in France despite all the additional encouragement given by the government. The recent French austerity package is designed among other things to cut back on internal consumption, and in turn this is bound to have an impact on many small businesses. Indeed, the small business association in France has already warned of the negative repercussions the new economic measures could have on employment and their performance this year.

The small businesses association has been heartened by the new shift in government industrial policy. The question is whether all the good intentions will now be translated into concrete measures to stimulate growth in the small business sector.

This improvement in investment activity last year by small

Small business abstracts

New products in smaller businesses by R. C. Parker in Chartered Mechanical Engineer (UK), Nov 82.

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TECHNOLOGY

LARGE CUSTOMERS DEMAND MORE SOPHISTICATION

IBM lets users mix and match—courtesy of Digital Research

THE MARKET for professional personal computers, only a couple of years old, is already beginning to show marked stratification.

What is happening is that large corporations are beginning to demand greater sophistication in the facilities offered on their machines than has hitherto been available. In other words, "concurrency," the ability of a computer to mix and match a series of tasks at the same time, has become the flavour of the month.

The most dramatic proof of this is the news that from the first of this month IBM has agreed to sell and maintain in the U.S. alone for now—a very sophisticated operating system for its personal computer (PC) built by Digital Research.

Operating

Operating systems (OS) are computer instructions which order the internal working of the machine. They handle, for example, the flow of information to and from disk memory storage. They are crucial to the performance of any computer but have a special significance at the very small machine level where ease of use of the operator is determined by the quality of the OS.

Digital Research is noted for having created the most popular operating system, CP/M (control program for microcomputers) in the history of microcomputing.

That was for 8-bit machines. Sales and license fees for the CP/M family of operating systems have taken Digital from an amount of \$15.4m in August 1982 to a certain \$40m by the end of this month.

Dramatic, but hardly unique figures in the hectic microcomputer software business. Microsoft, creator of Microsoft Basic, virtually the standard programming language for microcomputers, grew from revenues of \$0.5m in 1977 to \$32m last year (see this page, August 12).

When IBM unveiled its 16-bit personal computer, its preferred OS was, and still is, a Microsoft offering for 16-bit machines called PC/DOS. It actually offered the Digital Research 16-bit OS CP/M-86 as well but priced it at £199 compared with

Professional Personal Computing

A new business commodity product has emerged in the past two years. It is the professional personal computer, powerful enough for major business applications. This fortnightly column will chart the growth of this phenomenon.

£32 for PC/DOS. So there was little doubt which system IBM wanted its users to adopt.

Why? Explanations are many and varied, but it seems likely that IBM wanted to use a single source for its microcomputer system—and in these days it was hard for anyone to have foreseen how Microsoft and Digital were going to grow.

In the meantime, demands for concurrency from sophisticated users, usually in the big corporations, grew powerfully. Users wanted to be able to write text while printing other documents or merge their word processing with their financial analysis.

There are already a number of offerings in the market place. Visicorp, creators of the highly Visicorp spreadsheet package have announced VisiOn; Apple Computer has tackled the problem in hardware and software in its Lisa workstation.

Texas Instruments and Digital Equipment have been developing concurrent operating systems. Fujitsu already offers one on its professional computer, as does Wang.

IBM has a new and improved version of PC/DOS as well but priced it at £199 compared with

zine PC User: "There are questions about whether it is 'concurrent' enough to carry out a variety of tasks at once and whether it is secure enough to prevent unauthorised access."

Concurrent CP/M, of which some 750,000 copies are already in use sold by 45-50 licensees, is recognised as concurrent and secure.

IBM itself says: "For the sophisticated user, concurrent CP/M provides more than enough power. File integrity is fully ensured through the use of file and record locking and pass word protection. You no longer have to wait for your personal computer to finish one task before starting another."

What this means for the user is the ability to set up several different screens of information and switch between them at the press of a switch. Or up to four sets of information can be shown simultaneously on the one screen. A long document can be printed while the user is working on other information on the screen.

Of course, there is a trade-off. Concurrent CP/M is a large program requiring at least 256 thousand bytes of immediate memory and two 160 thousand byte floppy disc drives.

On the other hand, it only costs \$350 and is marketed to increase the value of the customer's investment in his or her IBM hardware. (It is little like fitting a steering wheel and brakes to a motor car to increase its usability.)

Mr John Rowley, appointed president of Digital Research two months ago said this week:

"It took us 30 months to develop concurrent CP/M. It is designed for the top end of the 16-bit microcomputer market, for customers who can make the most of the facilities it provides. IBM thought that it was moving downmarket with PC—instead it found it needed a concurrent operating system for customers with higher power machines."

There are, in fact, at least 18 separate operating systems available for the IBM PC and similar 16-bit machines like the Apricot from the UK's ACT. Concurrent CP/M will be available on the Apricot from October 11 and 12; full details from the FT conference department on 01-621 1355.

Mr Alex McIntosh, director of Entry Systems Operations for IBM (UK) International Products and Mr Adam Osborne, chairman of the board of the portable computer company which bears his name, are among the speakers at a Financial Times conference on the Professional Personal Computer.

The conference will be held at the Hotel Inter Continental on October 11 and 12; full details from the FT conference department on 01-621 1355.

Pocket spreadsheet

SOFTWARE PACKAGES about the size of a book of matches that plug into the front of the Hewlett Packard HP-75C allow users of this hand-held computer to deploy VisiCalc, advanced maths, text formatting, implemented in read-only memory (the machine's user memory of 24 kilobytes is not diminished), the modules vary in price from £150 for VisiCalc to £78 for the text formatter.

Although some will feel that the single line display of the HP-75 will be a limitation for spreadsheet software like VisiCalc, HP's view is that the display "acts as a window on the larger VisiCalc worksheet."

The data communications module seems useful in that it will allow HP-75 owners to transfer files to and from bigger host machines, say from home to office, and permit linkage to information networks. More on 0344 773100.

Insurance

SOFTWARE tailored to the needs of Britain's 9,000 insurance brokers has been developed by Midland Computer Services. The system is designed to operate on the Datalink range of microcomputers.

The package is aimed at the small to medium-sized insurance brokers. The company says this covers companies handling 3,000 policies. The system covers client enquiries, policy amendments, debit note preparation, all accounting functions, word processing and statement reconciliation. More details on 021 704 4226.

Conference

MR ALEX MCINTOSH, director of Entry Systems Operations for IBM (UK) International Products and Mr Adam Osborne, chairman of the board of the portable computer company which bears his name, are among the speakers at a Financial Times conference on the Professional Personal Computer.

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PILKINGTON'S NEW MOVES IN FIBRE OPTICS

Not in the same glass

BY ELAINE WILLIAMS

NEXT MONTH Pilkington will open a new factory at Bodell Wyddon in North Wales to make optical fibre cables. The factory, which will employ 71 people, will cost Pilkington about £1m.

This investment underlines Pilkington's moves into value added products and away from its traditional role as a raw materials supplier.

It is part of Pilkington's diversification programme. The patents on the float glass process developed in the 1950s, for many years the bedrock of its business—are running out.

Each year the company's royalties from this process dwindle, so it is looking for new business areas to develop. At one time the traditional glass product accounted for 40 per cent of the total business; now it is down to 25 per cent and still falling.

Pilkington became involved in optic fibre technology in 1969 when it developed a low-grade fibre for short-distance communications. By 1976 it had built one of the first purpose-built optic fibre production plants in the country.

Last November, however, the company decided to close down its production plant at St Asaph in North Wales and Shewsbury. The development plans for the more sophisticated graded index optical fibre which is used on the longer distance telecommunications systems. The reason was simple. Pilkington could buy the raw fibre it need from France at one third of the cost that it could produce its own material.

Instead it is concentrating on making cables and designing systems around optic fibres. Mr Dennis Oliver, chairman of the group commented in Pilkington's recently published annual report: "The manufacture of complete fibre optics systems has emerged as a larger and more valuable market than optical waveguides. We have therefore ceased waveguide fibre manufacture in order to exploit our expertise in the systems area."

Mr Reece Davies, sales manager of Pilkington's newly set up Fibre Optic Technologies, said that the subsidiary was likely to quadruple its turnover over the next year. Today, fibre optics is a tiny part of the Pilkington empire—but the main dealer room alone within the group.

In November, it will start a £500,000 contract with the BBC for a remote control system for tape machines. This will allow the BBC to control tape machines at local radio stations at times when they are unoccupied. The machines are controlled remotely over the telephone line. Again Pilkington believes that there is a potential market for the system outside the BBC.

Another unusual application

in which Pilkington has become involved is in the automation of the French lottery system. Tickets are usually bought at street kiosks. The company has developed part of the system with the French company, CSEE, which reads each lottery ticket to check if it has a winning combination and sends the information to a central computer based in Paris.

Mr Davies said that as a result of this work, Pilkington has identified another six projects which require the same sort of technology to read and inspect tickets. It is these opportunities on which the new optics fibres company hopes to capitalise. "It is one of the businesses of tomorrow," he said.

In the



Chase Manhattan's new dealing room; linked by 10,000m of Pilkington optical fibres

main dealer room alone within the group.

Pilkington installed 10,000 metres of optic fibre cable. The guns can be linked to Skalix's "Robofex" computerised process control and monitoring systems. Skalix in the UK can be contacted on Slough 25551.

Market leaders in micro technology 01-741 5111
FORTUNE SYSTEMS

Manufacturing

Robot welders

SCLARY, the French-based international welding equipment manufacturer has brought out a new range of robot transformer welding guns.

They are available in two forms: scissor (articulated) and "C" type. According to the company, they have the highest power to weight ratio on the market and can be fitted to most industrial robots.

Both models offer two power ratings (thermal rating of 25kVA or 33kVA); production rate for all models is 60 spots a minute.

The guns can be linked to Skalix's "Robofex" computerised process control and monitoring systems. Skalix in the UK can be contacted on Slough 25551.

Computing
Housing maintenance

A HOUSING maintenance software package to monitor and control local authority housing stock has been launched by Datapoint in the UK. The system records data on time and resource spent on maintenance assignments by direct labour staff with the French company, CSEE, which reads each lottery ticket to check if it has a winning combination and sends the information to a central computer based in Paris.

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SECTION III - INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

FINANCIAL TIMES

Tuesday August 23 1983

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Money figures lift
fixed-rate
Eurobonds, Page 30

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COMMODITIES 28
CURRENCIES 29
INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS 30

Market leaders in micro-technology
01-7415
FORTUNE SYSTEM

Manufacturing

Robot
welders

SCIARKY, the first
international welding
robot, has been
manufactured and
brought out by a new
company. The
robot is a transformer
and can be fitted to
any machine.

They are available
and can be used
in the market. The
robot is a transformer
and can be fitted to
any machine.

Both models have
power ratings of
25kVA or 25kW
and a 50 per cent
load factor rate for all
spots a minute.

The robots can be
controlled by a
monitoring system
in the UK can be
on Slough 2221

Computing
Housing
maintained

A HOUSING
software package
and control system
launched by Data
UK. The software
data on time and
spent on maintenance
by direct link
to compare with
costs and prevent
problems for management.
Details on this
can be obtained
12222.

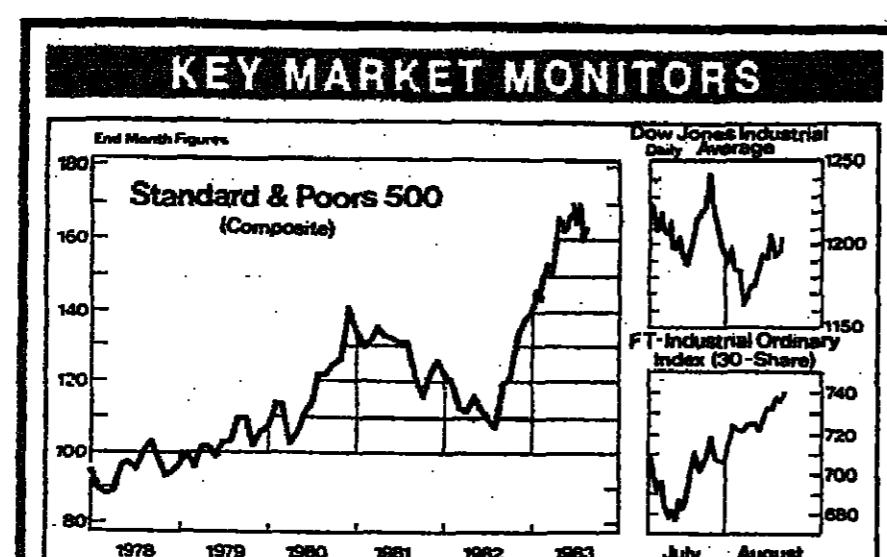
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that cut costs
by up to 10
per cent
to 17 per cent.
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Every week it tells
what to watch, what
about other markets,
your specific recommendations
and more, and now
provides you with its
information service.
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money with the help
of the Chronicle?
make sure you don't
be now and get your
investment back.
the best service you can
have refunded.

VESTON
ONICLE
PS YOU MAKE MORE
AND GET MORE BUSINESS
from Chronicle
120 meters underwater a diving watch. And above water? A cocktail watch.



STOCK MARKET INDICES

	New York	Aug 22	Previous	Year Ago
DJ Industrials	1203.15	1194.21	869.29	
DJ Transport	535.58	533.73	324.04	
DJ Utilities	131.07	130.88	115.36	
S&P Composite	164.34	163.98	113.02	

	U.S. DOLLAR	STERLING	Aug 22	Previous
£	1.523	1.516	4.0275	4.035
DM	2.6352	2.657	4.0275	4.035
Yen	242.95	243.6	371.5	370.5
FFr	7.915	7.9875	12.10	12.12
SwFr	2.14	2.156	3.2755	3.275
Gold	2.9425	2.972	4.5	4.51
Lira	1571.5	1582.5	2402.0	2401.5
BFr	52.93	53.21	88.75	88.75
CS	12225	123425	1.8835	1.8735

INTEREST RATES

	Aug 22	Prev
(three month offered rate)		
£	9%	9%
SwFr	4%	4%
DM	5%	5%
FFr	14%	15

FT London Interbank fixing (offered rate)

	3-month U.S.	6-month U.S.	10-month
3-month Fed Funds	9%	9%	9%
U.S. 3-month CDs	9.75	9.9	9.9
U.S. 3-month T-bills	9.15	9.25	9.25

U.S. Treasury Bonds

	Aug 22	Prev
10%	98.95	10.57
10%	98.95	11.38
11%	102.75	11.51
12%	103.75	11.52

FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Chicago	Latest	High	Low	Prev
U.S. Treasury Bonds (CBT)					
8% 32nds of 100%					

WEST GERMANY FAZ-Aktien 317.27 317.73 218.91

Commerzbank 940.1 942.2 565.1

HONG KONG Hang Seng 1000.23 996.28 1034.68

ITALY Banca Com 206.38 206.43 173.63

NETHERLANDS ANP-CBS Gen 143.4 142.6 85.6

ANP-CBS Ind 116.5 116.4 67.4

NORWAY Oslo SE 210.07 210.54 104.54

SINGAPORE Straits Times 996.18 998.11 606.29

SOUTH AFRICA Golds n/a 938.0 539.2

Industrials n/a 935.3 597.0

SPAIN Madrid SE closed 118.03 110.25

SWEDEN J&P 1475.16 1489.75 615.89

SWITZERLAND Swiss Bank Corp 338.2 338.1 241.1

WORLD Aug 19 Prev 1982

Capital Int'l 178.6 178.5 125.1

GOLD (per ounce)

Aug 22 Prev

London \$424.625 \$417.675

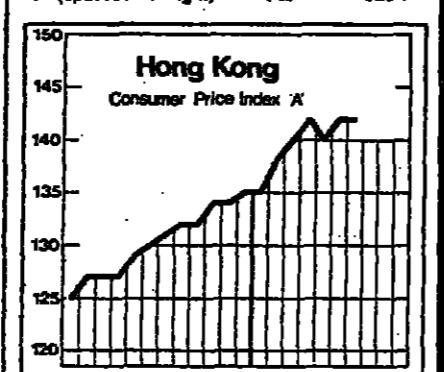
Frankfurt \$421.75 \$418.25

Zurich \$422.50 \$417.50

Paris (fixing) \$421.57 \$418.94

New York (Aug) \$425.70 \$418.20

* Indicates latest pre-close figure



WALL STREET

Response to M-1 fall is shortlived

U.S. MARKETS opened strongly yesterday in response to the \$500m fall in M-1 money supply announced late on Friday. Bond prices extended their gains and the stock market soared in the first hour of trading, writes Terry Byland in New York.

But the pace slackened as support from the major institutions proved somewhat fitful. The early gain in the Dow Jones industrial average was all but eliminated at one time, but in the last hour of trading, share prices picked up again and the index ended at 1203.15, a net 8.9 up.

In the bond market, the key long bond closed the session a net 1/4% higher at a new peak of 103 3/4.

Wall Street is still unsure of the outlook for the credit policies of the Federal Reserve Board, whose Open Market Committee is in session this week.

While opinions among market economists differ widely on the chances of the Fed easing its monetary stance, traders are closely watching the Federal Funds rate, the key short-term market fund rate over which the Fed has influence.

The rate slipped to 9 1/4 per cent yesterday from Friday's average 9.45 per cent. The bond market hopes the Fed may ease its Federal Funds target rate to between 8 and 9 1/4 per cent.

There was again strong demand for Exxon, 5% up at \$38.4. Other oils to move up in response to recommendations from analysts included Mobil, 5% higher at \$33.4.

A move to end the strike by the workforce at American Telephone and Telegraph put the shares 5% up at \$67.7.

Shares in Caterpillar Tractor reversed their long slide to add \$2 to \$39 1/2 following the weekend announcement that the U.S. Government was lifting its ban on sales to the Soviet Union of pipe-laying tractors, of which Caterpillar is a major U.S. manufacturer.

A Caterpillar spokesman said, however, that the company's sales to the Soviet Union were only about 1 per cent of total turnover. The jump in the share price also followed a favourable recommendation from Merrill Lynch, which was additionally signalled yesterday by a block deal of shares at \$39.4.

Other major stocks to advance included U.S. Steel, 3% higher at \$28, International Paper, \$24 up at \$33.4, Texas Instruments, a weak feature for some weeks, recovered 5% to \$11.14.

In motor shares, AMC were supported after company forecasts of a much improved fourth quarter, reflected in increased production schedules but General Motors, at \$67.4 lost 5 1/4.

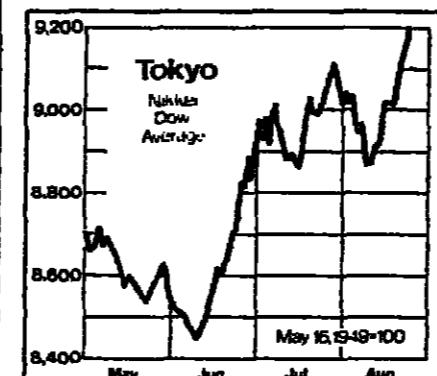
A further round of buying orders from Canadian sources pushed shares in Alcan Aluminium ahead by 5 1/4 to \$38.4. Inco, the world's major producer of nickel, was also strong at \$16.4.

In a generally quiet chemicals sector, Monsanto lost 5 1/4 to stand at \$102.

In the credit markets, support softened at midday when the Federal Funds Rate edged up to 9% per cent.

At the shorter end, yields slipped by a few basis points. The three month Treasury bill was one basis point off at a discount of 9.21 per cent. The six month bill, at 9.29 per cent discount, showed a similar trend.

A significant feature of the day's trading was the heavy list of block trades in leading stocks, which included Eastman Kodak, RCA, Aetna, Life and Casualty, General Motors and AT & T. The major institutions were evidently picking up lines of stock without difficulty, sometimes at a discount to market prices.



TOKYO

Drug makers stimulate sentiment

AN ADVANCE centring on pharmaceuticals pushed the Nikkei-Dow Jones average above 9,200 for the first time in Tokyo. Investors apparently judged that prices would continue to gain, reflecting the yen's firmness on foreign exchange markets, writes Shigeo Nishizuka of Jiji Press.

The index of 225 select issues soared 86.62 to finish the day at a record 9,203.75. But trading was relatively slow with 300m shares changing hands. Gains outnumbered losses 335 to 284 with 193 issues unchanged.

Investors were hopeful of a further increase in share prices as the Nikkei-Dow hit a new high of 9,139.73 last Friday, up 50.15 on the preceding day. The expectation was that share prices would advance on Wall Street later yesterday because of the \$500m drop in U.S. M-1 money supply announced last weekend.

A Caterpillar spokesman said, however, that the company's sales to the Soviet Union were only about 1 per cent of total turnover. The jump in the share price also followed a favourable recommendation from Merrill Lynch, which was additionally signalled yesterday by a block deal of shares at \$39.4.

Other major stocks to advance included U.S. Steel, 3% higher at \$28, International Paper, \$24 up at \$33.4, Texas Instruments, a weak feature for some weeks, recovered 5% to \$11.14.

In motor shares, AMC were supported after company forecasts of a much improved fourth quarter, reflected in increased production schedules but General Motors, at \$67.4 lost 5 1/4.

At the shorter end, yields slipped by a few basis points. The three month Treasury bill was one basis point off at a discount of 9.21 per cent. The six month bill, at 9.29 per cent discount, showed a similar trend.

Regional and trust banks offered for sale 7.7 per cent Government bonds with a little more than six years remaining to maturity in lots of around Yiba. These were bought by brokers.

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Continued on Page 2

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

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Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 per cent or more has been paid, the year's high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stock only. Unless otherwise

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a-dividend also extra(s) b-annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend c-liquidating dividend d-called d-new yearly low e-dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. g-dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax i-dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend j-dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k-dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulating issue with dividends in arrears. n-new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading, nd-next day delivery. P/E-price-earnings ratio, r-dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s-stock split. Dividends begins with date of split its-splits. t-dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u-new yearly high. v-trading halted. vi-in bankruptcy or receivership or being re-organised under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies wd-when distributed. wr-when issued. wr-with warrants. x-ex-dividend or ex-rights xds-ex-distribution. xm-without warrants y-ex-dividend and sales in full yld-yield. z-sales in full.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

MARKET REPORT

RECENT ISSUES

London equities move to new peaks in wake of latest U.S. money supply figures

Account Dealing Dates

Options

First Declarer Last Account Dealing Dates Day

Aug. 1 Aug. 11 Aug. 12 Aug. 22

Aug. 15 Sept. 1 Sept. 2 Sept. 22

Sept. 5 Sept. 15 Sept. 16 Sept. 22

Newsweek dealing may place from 9.30 am two business days earlier

Confirmation that U.S. money growth had contracted for the second successive week hardened London stock markets yesterday. Although last week's fall had been widely anticipated, it was confidently expected to be a short American financial markets, which it did early yesterday, as the current upward pressures on U.S. interest rates were partially eased.

Throughout the trading session, leading shares in London were trading following all-time peaks and the FT Industrial Ordinary share index, along with broader measurements of equity market trends, finally achieved a new record of 744.4, up 4.7. The FT Actuaries Industrial Group index closed at an all-time high of 454.5. These levels were levels were attained despite sub-standard business volume because of the continuing small amount of institutional interest owing to holiday considerations.

Smaller private investors were also tended to concentrate on weaker news stories, companies either announcing or about to report trading results and a range of situation issues. Irish Sea oils reacted further profit-taking, but several other exploration hope for contracted demand. Leading Oils fluctuated narrowly awaiting Britain's interim statement on Thursday.

Government stocks also responded to the latest U.S. money statistics. Investment orders in this area, too, were usually from smaller clients with larger investors still content to take this time. Settlement in the late trade was unimpaired by the confident opening tone yesterday in the U.S. bond market, and longer-dated Gilts stood 3 higher at the 3.30 pm close.

The announcement then of two tranches of existing longer securities, one amounting to £200m, and the other to £200m, brought the usual react in dealing. When resumed quotations eased only slightly from the best levels to settle 4 up on balance. The shorts made progress throughout the day to end around 4 higher sentiment at this end of the market was unaffected by the latest Government funding.

Hambros good

Hambros featured Merchant banks with a gain of 11 to 138p, after 140p, following a Press report that the company has recently sold off a good premium one of the seven tankers it owned in the wake of the Heikken problems and that similar deals may follow. Elsewhere, Kleinwort Benson hardened 3 to 365p but Guinness Peat relinquished a penny to 50p. With the exception of Midland, which gave up 3 to 435p with the new nil-paid share the same amount easier at 82p premium, the major clearing banks gained 1 to 3 to 100p. National put on 8 to 50p and Lloyd's hardened 5 to 510p. Waiting the respective interim statements due today, Hong Kong and Shanghai edged forward a penny to 69p and Standard Chartered put on 2 to 492p. In Hurn Purchases Wagon Finance gained 3 to 56p ahead of Friday's interim figures.

Composite and Life issues began the week on a quietly firm note, with substantial gains of 4 to 170p, according to Press comment. While Eagle Star continued to reflect takeover speculation with a rise of 3 at 460p,

Ahead of

tomorrow's interim figures, Peat gained 4 to 724p.

Little Brokers, C. E. Hays, up 5 to 310p after cautious comment.

Arrows featured recent new-gains to the Unlisted Securities Market with a rise of 8 to the highest yet of 150p. Seuss were slightly easier at 110p, the price in Monday's issue was incorrect.

Woolworths formed a couple of points to 135p, following the announcement of a 20 per cent plus increase next month. Other major

Breweries failed to respond to the news, however, and the business volume was again described as modest.

Amalgamated Distilled Products eased a penny to 265p, following the merger terms with Argyll Foods, 2 dearer at 125p.

Taylor Woodrow encountered occasional profit-taking as recent interim results and put on 20 to 350p, while Blue Circle, the oil refiner, held its own on the back of a 20 per cent plus increase next month. Other major

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COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

Copper facing further pressure

BY JOHN EDWARDS, COMMODITIES EDITOR

ANOTHER rise in stocks and the weaker dollar, put copper prices under renewed pressure in early trading on the London Metal Exchange yesterday. But the higher grade three month quotation, after touching a low of £1,084, rose to £1,090, a tonne, down only £2 on Friday's close.

A further trend in New York during early trading, and the advance in gold and silver, helped the rally in copper but the market remains depressed, with prices in the unusual situation of being cheaper than aluminium.

Copper stocks held in the LME warehouses rose again last week by 15,350 tonnes raising total holdings to 314,950 tonnes—only some 30,000 below the peak level reached in mid-June.

Practically all copper stocks have been forced to cut back domestic prices to 77 cents a lb. In contrast, further rises in U.S. aluminium prices are being forecast, and LME stocks of aluminium fell last week by 7,225 to 264,000 tonnes.

However, latest figures from the International Primary Aluminium Institute in London show that non-Communist world production in July rose to 916,000 tonnes, compared with 869,000 tonnes in June (a 30-

Firm close for soyameal

BY OUR COMMODITIES STAFF

THE LONDON soyameal sterling contract closed firm yesterday, with the December position rising the permissible 5% limit in the morning. After trading, resumed prices advanced again and the closing price was £202.05 a tonne, up £1.75 from the previous close of £190.30. The day's high was

£202.50. Brokers said general trade and speculative demand pushed values higher, based on opening limit gains in Chicago which reflected lack of significant rain in the U.S. over the weekend. Firmer prices in Rotterdam also supported the market.

Sri Lankan troubles push up tea values

By P. C. Mahanti in Calcutta

INDIAN tea prices have risen to an unprecedented 27 rupees per kilogram, easily surpassing the 17.5 rupee of the 1975-77 boom year.

Poor crops in the past two

years have increased domestic demand, while world output has

declined, largely because of recent violence in Sri Lanka.

Indian tea output to the

June total of 17.52m kg com-

pared with 17.32m kg in the

same period in 1982. The July

crop figure is likely to show

some improvement in supply

but prices are likely to be

influenced by a world crop of

about the same size or even

smaller than last year's 10.2m kg.

At the end of May, the world

tea crop was 1.3m kg ahead of

the 265m kg output at the

same time last year but Sri

Lanka was well behind.

Kenya and Indonesia would

have risen but not to the extent

that could outpace the Sri

Lankan losses. If the Indian

crop maintains the 560m kg

average of the last three years

a global deficit is likely.

China, the world's second

largest producer, is facing

increasing domestic demand

and is not expected to try and

fill the Sri Lankan gap.

However, the real threat to

India's export prospects could

come from its own rising domes-

tic consumption which absorbed

365m kg of last year's total out-

put of 586m kg.

But it is important to see this

in perspective. Last year U.S.

production was at its lowest level for 15 years and

the first half rise, if sustained

through the year, will still leave

the total some 30 per cent below

pre-recession levels.

Moreover, doubts are being

voiced in some quarters about

the genuineness and sustain-

ability of the recovery.

The motor industry has been

forced to cut its margins to the

bone in offering "once-in-a-

lifetime" special deals to

prospective buyers to achieve

the upturn. But these offers

have been quite normal.

The Indonesian officials

said that Malaysia's proposal

was apparently prompted by

estimates that there would be

a natural rubber shortfall in

the current period.

Amalgamated Metal Trading re-

ported that in the morning cash Higher Grade

traded at £1,084, up 1.5% on

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All of these Securities have been sold. This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

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(LM Ericsson Telephone Company)

4,000,000 B Shares

Nominal Value 50 Kronor

Represented by

American Depository Receipts

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 May, 1983

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INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS

Drop in
M-1 lifts
fixed-rate
\$ bonds

By Peter Montagnon in London

FIXED rate dollar Eurobonds gained by about 1% point in the secondary market yesterday as dealers absorbed news of a \$500m drop in the U.S. M-1 money supply in the latest reporting week.

"But this will not be our policy," said Mr Niels Erik Sørensen of the National Debt Office. "We like to have undrawn credits, so we shall certainly be in the market - possibly

Denmark set to cut borrowing

BY HILARY BARNES IN COPENHAGEN

DENMARK'S ECONOMIC position has improved so much over the past 12 months that the Government may be able to stay out of international capital markets for the rest of this year, and could, if necessary, postpone further borrowing until well into 1984.

"But this will not be our policy," said Mr Niels Erik Sørensen of the National Debt Office. "We like to have undrawn credits, so we shall certainly be in the market - possibly

by this year - to utilise any good opportunities which may arise."

The Kingdom borrowed Dkr 23.4bn (\$2.45bn) in 1982, but with the current balance of payments deficit declining the Government now expects to borrow only around Dkr 16bn this year, and slightly less in 1984.

But at the end of the year the Government will not have drawn on a \$1.3bn syndicated credit signed last spring.

When this loan was arranged the Government believed it would need another jumbo loan around the new year, but this is not necessary said Mr Sørensen.

The authorities will shortly consider their borrowing strategy for the coming period.

The current balance of payments deficit, which was Dkr 18.7bn last year, is now expected to decline to Dkr 13.5bn this year, and fall to around Dkr 10bn in 1984.

FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

The list shows the 200 latest international bond issues for which an adequate secondary market exists. For further details of these or other bonds see the complete list of Eurobond prices which is published monthly. The following are closing prices for August 22.

U.S. DOLLAR STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Yield	Japan Airlines 7% 87	15	102 1/2	103 1/2	0	+1/2
Bank of America 8 1/2 80	100	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.88	New Zealand 7% 82	20	101 1/2	102 1/2	-1/2	-1/2
Bank of America 8 1/2 80	150	94	95	0	12.64	World Bank 6% 82	20	102 1/2	103 1/2	0	1/2
British Cyl Ind 10% 85	200	94 1/2	95 1/2	+1/2	11.11	Ac. price changes: on day +1/2, on week +1/2					
British Cyl Ind 10% 85	200	94 1/2	95 1/2	+1/2	12.28	OTHER STRAIGHTS	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on day	Yield
British Cyl Ind 10% 85	200	94 1/2	95 1/2	+1/2	11.76	British Cyl 11% 83 CS	251	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.22
Can Pac Sys 11 1/2 80	100	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.73	Can Pac Sys 11 1/2 80 CS	751	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.24
Can Pac Sys 11 1/2 80	100	94	94 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Classi Credit 11% 82 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.23
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.89	Classi Credit 11% 82 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.22
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.51	Horizon 12% 83 CS	601	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.21
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.57	Xanadu Province 12.6% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.20
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.55	Xanadu Province 12.6% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.19
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.57	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.18
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.14	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.17
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.22	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.16
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.15
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.24	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.14
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.13
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.12
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.11
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.10
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.09
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.08
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.07
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.06
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.05
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.04
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.03
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.02
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.01
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.00
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.99
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.98
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.97
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	501	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.96
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	12.28	Credit Ind 12.4% 83 CS	401	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2	11.95
Canal System 10% 80	150	92 1/2	93 1/2	+1/2							